

ROUTLEDGE REVIVALS

**The Romance of the Rose or
of Guillaume De Dole (Roman
De La Rose Ou De Guillaume
De Dole)**

Edited by
Regina Psaki



VISIT...

LANZAROTE
Caliente.COM

Routledge Revivals

**The Romance of the Rose or of
Guillaume de Dole
(Roman De La Rose Ou De
Guillaume De Dole)**



Taylor & Francis

Taylor & Francis Group

<http://taylorandfrancis.com>

**The Romance of the Rose or of
Guillaume de Dole
(Roman De La Rose Ou De
Guillaume De Dole)**

**Edited and Translated by
Regina Psaki**



Routledge
Taylor & Francis Group

First published in 1995 by Garland Publishing, Inc.

This edition first published in 2018 by Routledge
2 Park Square, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 4RN
and by Routledge
52 Vanderbilt Avenue, New York, NY 10017, USA

Routledge is an imprint of the Taylor & Francis Group, an informa business

© 1995 by Regina Psaki

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reprinted or reproduced or utilised in any form or by any electronic, mechanical, or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publishers.

Publisher's Note

The publisher has gone to great lengths to ensure the quality of this reprint but points out that some imperfections in the original copies may be apparent.

Disclaimer

The publisher has made every effort to trace copyright holders and welcomes correspondence from those they have been unable to contact.

A Library of Congress record exists under ISBN:

ISBN 13: 978-0-367-14719-8 (hbk)

ISBN 13: 978-0-429-05317-7 (ebk)

JEAN RENART

GARLAND LIBRARY OF MEDIEVAL LITERATURE
VOLUME 92A

ADVISORY BOARD

General Editors

JAMES J. WILHELM
Rutgers University

LOWRY NELSON, JR.
Yale University

Literary Advisors

INGEBORG GLIER
Yale University

NORRIS J. LACY
Washington University

FREDE JENSEN
University of Colorado

FRED C. ROBINSON
Yale University

SIDNEY M. JOHNSON
Indiana University

ALDO SCAGLIONE
New York University

WILLIAM W. KIBLER
University of Texas

Art Advisor

ELIZABETH PARKER McLACHLAN
Rutgers University

Music Advisor

HENDRIK VAN DER WERF
Eastman School of Music

JEAN RENART
THE ROMANCE OF THE ROSE
OR OF GUILLAUME DE DOLE
(ROMAN DE LA ROSE OU DE
GUILLAUME DE DOLE)

EDITED AND TRANSLATED BY
REGINA PSAKI

GARLAND PUBLISHING, INC.
NEW YORK AND LONDON
1995

Copyright © 1995 by Regina Psaki
All rights reserved

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Jean Renart, 12th/13th cent.

[Guillaume de Dole. English & French (Old French)]

The Romance of the Rose or of Guillaume de Dole = Roman de la Rose
ou de Guillaume de Dole / Jean Renart ; translated by Regina Psaki.

p. cm. — (Garland library of medieval literature ; v. 92A)

Parallel texts in English and Old French, with critical matter in English.

Includes bibliographical references.

ISBN 0-8153-0400-5 (alk. paper)

1. Romances—Translations into English. I. Psaki, Regina.

II. Title. III. Series.

PQ1483.G4513 1995

841'.1—dc20

95-509

CIP

Printed on acid-free, 250-year-life paper

Manufactured in the United States of America

PREFACE OF THE GENERAL EDITORS

The Garland Library of Medieval Literature was established to make available to the general reader modern translations of texts in editions that conform to the highest academic standards. All of the translations are originals, and were created especially for this series. The translations usually attempt to render the foreign works in a natural idiom that remains faithful to the originals, although in certain cases we have published more poetic versions.

The Library is divided into two sections: Series A, texts and translations; and Series B, translations alone. Those volumes containing texts have been prepared after consultation of the major previous editions and manuscripts. The aim in the edition has been to offer a reliable text with a minimum of editorial intervention. Significant variants accompany the original, and important problems are discussed in the Textual Notes. Volumes without texts contain translations based on the most scholarly texts available, which have been updated in terms of recent scholarship.

Most volumes contain Introductions with the following features: (1) a biography of the author or a discussion of the problem of authorship, with any pertinent historical or legendary information; (2) an objective discussion of the literary style of the original, emphasizing any individual features; (3) a consideration of sources for the work and its influence; and (4) a statement of the editorial policy for each edition and translation. There is also a Select Bibliography, which emphasizes recent criticism on the works. Critical writings are often accompanied by brief descriptions of their importance. Selective glossaries, indices, and footnotes are included where appropriate.

The Library covers a broad range of linguistic areas, including all of the major European languages. All of the important liter-

ary forms and genres are considered, sometimes in anthologies or selections.

The General Editors hope that these volumes will bring the general reader a closer awareness of a richly diversified area that has for too long been closed to everyone except those with precise academic training, an area that is well worth study and reflection.

James J. Wilhelm
Rutgers University

Lowry Nelson, Jr.
Yale University

Contents

Introduction	ix
The Problem of Authorship	ix
Artistic Achievement	xiv
Sources and Influences	xxiii
Editorial Policy for This Text and Translation	xxviii
Notes to the Introduction	xxxiv
Select Bibliography	xxxvi
<i>The Romance of the Rose</i> <i>or of Guillaume de Dole</i>	1
Notes	262
Appendix: Lyric and Other Insertions	269



Taylor & Francis

Taylor & Francis Group

<http://taylorandfrancis.com>

Introduction

The Problem of Authorship

Le Roman de la Rose ou de Guillaume de Dole was an unattributed text in its first complete edition by G. Servois in 1893.¹ Speculation about its author was energetic, however, and in the following decades various studies of the language of this text, of the *Roman de l'Escoufle*, and of the *Lai de l'Ombre*--whose author names himself as one Jehan Renart--strongly supported the hypothesis that the same author produced all three works. In his 1913 edition of the *Lai de l'Ombre*, Joseph Bédier refers to these studies and adds several observations of his own linking the three texts stylistically but takes a resigned tone regarding the persuasive weight of such evidence:

...the real proof of the proposed identification...lies rather in a multitude of elusive analogies, of minute resemblances, each of which considered separately is debatable, and yet which taken together comprise an individual writerly profile, that complex and irreducible thing which we call a style...the strongest proofs, for each observer, are those which he has the most difficulty in conveying to anyone else. (xvi-xvii)

...les vraies preuves de l'identification proposée...sont plutôt dans une multitude d'analogies fugitives, de menues ressemblances, dont chacune prise à part est contestable, et qui pourtant, réunies, composent une physionomie individuelle d'écrivain, cette chose complexe et indivisible que l'on appelle un style...les preuves les plus fortes sont pour chaque observateur celles qu'il lui est le plus malaisé de communiquer à autrui.

Understandably, perhaps, Bédier seems to have suspected that a positivist age would be more convinced by an *engin* than by an impression, and he proposed that in the two unsigned romances, Jean Renart encoded his name into brief epilogues:

quil entra en religion (*Roman de la Rose*, 5655)

con fait par bien povre seurnon
a cort... (*Roman de l'Escoufle*, 9100-01)

In the first example we read (more or less) right to left, to find the name Renart; in the second we read both to the left and to the right of the letters "re" in "povre." Bédier's discovery of this cipher did indeed finalize the broad agreement that Jean Renart had written the three works, as Rita Lejeune's 1935 monograph attests:

The legitimacy of this agreement was confirmed in 1913, when... M. Joseph Bédier showed that the two romances were signed with a secret signature.... From that moment on, Jean Renart was allowed to take his place in medieval literature. (9) *La légitimité de cet accord fut confirmée en 1913, lorsque... M. Joseph Bédier eut démontré que les deux romans étaient signés d'une signature secrète.... A partir de ce moment, Jean Renart conquiert vraiment droit de cité dans la littérature médiévale.*

In addition to the anagrams and the similarities of language and style, however, Jean Renart left other internal evidence which links the three works. In the *Lai* he refers explicitly to the *Escoufle*, and in the *Rose* he seems to refer to the *Lai*.² In the *Rose*, moreover, he pointedly places the words "escoufle" and "Renart" within a few lines of each other (5417, 5421; Lejeune 1935, 143).

These few clues, however, gain us only a name and a corpus; we know nothing whatsoever about Jean Renart's life or origins beyond what he chooses to hint at in his texts, and it would certainly be imprudent to take those hints at face value.³ We cannot tell with any certainty whether or not in fact he ever became a monk,⁴ ever was a jongleur, ever was attached to any court, ever had firsthand experience of the court and tournament life which he describes so vividly. Despite his language and his apparent familiarity with areas in the northeast of France and in Flanders, we cannot state with certainty precisely where he came from. We cannot, in fact, discuss him as a man at all, but only as an author. Indeed, even then, we are hard put to identify what Jean Renart's literary project was or to isolate the period in which he undertook it. In order to clarify the difficulties involved I will briefly review the controversial dating of the *Roman de la Rose*.

G. Servois, the *Rose*'s first editor (whose introduction remains invaluable for information on how this romance was understood, and misunderstood, from the sixteenth to the late nineteenth century), dated the text c. 1200-1201. Rita Lejeune, who did the second edition, has recently put the date of composition at around 1208-1210, or in any case before the battle of Bouvines in 1214; after that clash between

France and the Empire it seemed inconceivable for an author to gather the knights of the two opposing forces together at a friendly tournament as Jean Renart does in this romance. Both Servois and Lejeune try to identify a historical moment in which all the contemporary and near-contemporary figures mentioned in the *Rose* are present and accounted for, old enough to take part in tournaments and able to be plausibly gathered together in something like amity. Her dating is supported recently by Baldwin and Mattioli but challenged by the text's third editor, Félix Lecoy. Lecoy, whose introduction is substantially indebted to Lejeune's monograph, also tries to harmonize the various life-spans and political alliances of the nobles mentioned by Jean Renart, with the sensible caveat that the period in which the romance is set need not be the period in which it was composed. He thus proposes that Jean Renart meant to evoke the ambience of the period around 1210-1215 but actually wrote the romance much later, in 1227-28 (1961, 395). This revised dating, which Michel Zink seconds, is constrained on the one hand by a period of peace between England and France to which the *Rose* seems to refer and on the other by the date of the *Roman de la Violette*, whose debt to the *Roman de la Rose* is widely accepted by scholars (Lecoy 1961, 399).

These various proposals are based on textual allusions and historical data which are not themselves in dispute. The basis of the conflicting conclusions, however, is interpretative rather than factual: no one examining the date of the *Roman de la Rose* claims to have unearthed new archival evidence which changes the configuration of the whole. The assembly of relevant facts is thus extremely sensitive to the interpretative preferences and assumptions of the individual critics. Thus Mattioli, who contests Lecoy's claim that fifteen years may easily separate the composition of the romance from the period it describes, can only justify her claim to the contrary by recourse to her own interpretative schema, within which the extratextual allusions are meant to be very immediate, concrete, and

...a virtual mirror of the aristocratic society for which Jean Renart is writing. [The] historical walk-ons thus serve the precise function of stimulating the audience's interest, through the concreteness...of characters known to the worldly context of the time. To locate it in the past, even in the near past, strikes me as a hypothesis which belies the very nature of Jean Renart's undertaking. (96)

...quasi specchio della società aristocratica per cui Jean Renart scrive. [Le] comparse storiche assolvono così al preciso fine di stimolare l'interesse dell'uditorio, attraverso la concretezza... di personaggi noti agli ambienti mondani del tempo... pensare ad un passato, anche vicino... mi sembra ipotesi che falsa la natura stessa del procedimento di Jean Renart.

I tend to agree with Mattioli that Jean Renart's allusions, like his lyric insertions, were meant to resonate as modern with the audience for whom he wrote them, not as names and faces current fifteen or eighteen years earlier; I thus tend to date the *Rose* more as Lejeune does, around 1212. But this is a reading preference, and we cannot disguise it as a fact.

This dry debate on the date of composition has serious implications for an interpretation of the text. The scholars who favor an earlier date for the *Roman de la Rose* tend to emphasize the realistic resonances of the work, the historical personae, the timely (or time-bound) extratextual references, the events and habits and ideologies which the text showcases. These readers, believing that Jean Renart wrote from a much closer observation-post than does Lecoy, privilege the "roman réaliste" aspect of the *Rose* as "a real, direct, portrait of a French society" [une peinture réelle, directe, d'une société française] (Lejeune 1935, 332). Baldwin, for example, emphasizes strongly the political timeliness of the tale. On the other hand, those scholars who agree with Lecoy that a considerable distance may separate the events of the text and its composition tend to weight the self-consciously literary quality of the text more heavily. Far from sketching from life, they argue, Jean Renart was carefully manipulating levels of "reality" and "fiction" in such a way as to call into question the stability of both. Echoing Zink's excellent study *Roman rose et rose rouge*, Félix Lecoy in 1980 succinctly routs the "real, direct portrait" model which Lejeune had described (and to which he also had earlier subscribed):

We are thus very far from any "realist" portrait; we are in full "literature,"... a literature made out of literature. (14)

Nous sommes donc ici très loin d'une peinture, disons vériste; nous sommes en pleine "littérature,"... une littérature faite avec de la littérature.

At issue, then, is whether Jean Renart the author represents his world or evaluates it, and whether he is in any fundamental way engaged with his political context, or remains deliberately distanced from it in order

to create a self-sufficient literary world. These two extremes are caricatures, and most scholars would agree that they are by no means mutually exclusive; still they define the spectrum along which criticism of the *Roman de la Rose* has developed in the last decades.

Whether we read Jean Renart as primarily concerned with his political context or with his literary patrimony, however, his *Roman de la Rose* proves him to be a creative and innovative author in two particular aspects, each of which is related to one of these interpretative extremes. His connection to his historical context surfaces in innumerable allusions to contemporary aristocratic figures and to contemporary court life; and his engagement with his literary patrimony surfaces in his self-consciously original interpolation of poetic fragments in his narrative. While Chrétien de Troyes claims aesthetic superiority on the basis of his faithful and artistic rendering of familiar stories, and a troubadour claims it on the basis of the authenticity of his feelings, Jean Renart claims superiority for the *Roman de la Rose* on the rather modern basis of originality: this romance, he says, is "une novele chose / et sest des autres si divers" [quite new / and altogether different from the others, lines 12-13]. In his prologue he notes proudly that this romance, unlike any other, is "brodez par lieus" [embroidered in places, 14] with lyric verses which endow his text with novelty, exclusivity, variety, and beauty. Thus while his subject matter is traditional, his articulation of it is innovative to the point of being revolutionary. He explicitly claims to have devised this literary embellishment, whereas he does not mention or boast of his innovative recourse to a kind of realism which eschews the marvelous in favor of the recognizable present (however idealized and, to use Lecoy's image, "pointilliste" [1961, 395]). Both innovations had a tremendous influence in medieval French literature, as we shall see.

The engagement of this narrative text with its lyric extratext brings us back to the problem of dating. We have seen that scholars using precisely the same evidence have reasoned differently about the probable date of composition of the *Roman de la Rose* and that none of these proposed dates can be considered definitive. The question which most tantalizes the scholars who read Jean Renart as primarily engaged with literary conventions concerns the chronological and intertextual relationship of this *Roman de la Rose* to Guillaume de Lorris' much more famous and influential work, dated 1225. Lecoy's dating of 1227-1228, of course, implies that Jean Renart imitates or reacts to Guillaume

de Lorris, while Lejeune's dating of c. 1210 suggests that if there is any connection between the two, it is Guillaume de Lorris who reacts to Jean Renart.

Considering that both authors examine the interplay of narrative and lyric, it seems likely to me that the more sophisticated constellation should have taken its impulse from the rougher and more literal experiment. If Jean Renart's *Roman de la Rose* splices lyric and narrative together bodily, as it were, Guillaume de Lorris' *Roman de la Rose* expands a lyric situation into a full-fledged narrative, drawing perhaps on Jean Renart's more literal braiding. If we assume that the second author, whichever he was, knew the first text and in some way responded to it, it is easy to imagine how Guillaume de Lorris could have extrapolated his *Roman de la Rose* from Jean Renart's formal experiment with lyric and narrative imperatives. It is, however, much more difficult to imagine how Jean Renart could have moved from Guillaume de Lorris' nearly seamless melding of the two to his own juxtaposition of narrative context and lyric quotations. I suspect, therefore, that Jean Renart wrote his work significantly earlier than Guillaume de Lorris, whose *Roman de la Rose* was to inaugurate a new, putatively autobiographical narrativization of lyric.

Artistic Achievement

The romance opens at the festive springtime court of Conrad, the young and courtly emperor of Germany, whose courtiers urge him to marry in order to insure the succession. He refuses, until one day he hears a jongleur's report of a superlatively beautiful and virtuous young woman, Liënor, and her noble and valorous brother, Guillaume de Dole. He falls in love with the jongleur's description of her and summons Guillaume to court to test his valor in a tournament and to ask for Liënor's hand--which, of course, he receives. His seneschal, however, envious of Guillaume's rise to favor, thwarts the marriage by prying from Guillaume's mother--who never allows the seneschal to see Liënor--the secret of a rose-shaped birthmark on Liënor's thigh. The seneschal uses his knowledge to substantiate his claim that he has taken Liënor's virginity. The marriage is called off, the emperor is heartsick, and Guillaume is cast into shame and chagrin. Liënor comes to court

and accuses the seneschal of having raped her. When the seneschal proves through a judicial ordeal that far from having raped her, he has never even seen her before, she reveals her identity as Liënor and thus proves her innocence of having been his lover. The marriage takes place, and the seneschal is sent off on crusade by way of punishment.

The *Roman de la Rose*, with three editions published in the past 100 years, has long received attention from historians and literary critics, although with the years the nature and extent of its aesthetic achievement have been evaluated variously. With the consolidation of his *oeuvre*, Jean Renart's position now seems secure as second only to Chrétien in his "profound originality" [originalité foncière, Lejeune 1974, 440]. Accordingly, the *Roman de la Rose* has become the focus of penetrating critical studies in both French and English, and almost no level of hypersubtlety seems too exaggerated to attribute to Jean Renart. The most recent work on this romance tends to privilege as a site of investigation either the lyric insertions or the gender issues raised by the text. (Critics from Baumgartner on have certainly noticed the extent to which gender issues are implicated in the romance's constitutive genres, but they typically focus considerably more attention on one aspect than on the other.) Focusing more closely on gender implications--specifically the role of Liënor in the romance--are the essays by Krueger, Kay, Rey-Flaud, De Looze, Solterer, Durling, and Psaki.

The *Roman de la Rose* is eminently suited to analysis using a feminist approach. Issues of gender and representation are vividly engaged, for example, in the figure of Liënor, fixedly absent throughout most of the tale, whose appropriation and misrepresentation by the seneschal raise disquieting questions about the representations of her by Jouglet, Conrad, Guillaume, and most particularly by the author himself. Jean Renart's adoption of Liënor as a figure for textuality establishes that textuality as specifically male and thus remains problematic. Roberta Krueger, in a deservedly influential article, concludes in part that Jean Renart ultimately "reaffirms cultural norms" and that the narrator, while using Liënor to demystify "courtly ideology," "remystifies her": he participates in the process he reveals to the reader (44).

I disagree with Krueger's contention that by reinserting Liënor (or having her reinsert herself) into the position that Conrad and Guillaume had prepared for her, Jean Renart is reinscribing courtly ideology intact. Like the *Roman de Silence*, whose revolutionary

premise devolves into a conventional narrative resolution, the *Roman de la Rose* circles back into a storybook ending, seeming to abandon or disown its own challenge to the literary and factual status quo. But to think so is ultimately to think rather literally. I doubt that these authors understood the dramatic rebellion of the female personae to have been annulled with a brisk tidying-up of the narrative stage at the end. Such rebellion cannot be undone; it can only be accommodated within a new, demystified understanding of human complexity. The rupture may be closed, but the seam is still clearly visible, and we will not be so naive again as to take the stability of the status quo as an ontological given. Krueger's work is too sophisticated to be nostalgic for a "really feminist" ending, an ending in which Liënor either deposes Conrad and rules the Empire herself or dispenses with him altogether to open an orphrey-shop with her mother in Mainz. Krueger's objection is no facile modernist demand that medieval personae behave like modern ones eager to earn the title of feminist. But she may downplay the extent to which Jean Renart challenges and unveils an epistemological, literary, historical, and ideological *displacement* of women, though he can do nothing within his representational schema to redress it.

The *Roman de la Rose* stands out from its predecessors in the romance genre in that its standard octosyllabic rhymed-couplet form is interrupted by forty-six lyric insertions, or interpolated fragments of various lyric genres. This generic hybridism is Jean Renart's most visible departure from the taxonomy of the romances which preceded his, but it is by no means the only one. In addition to the lyrics, he imports, for examples, persons from his own time; the beginning of an inset narrative, which is transformed into the romance itself; a robe embroidered with the history of Troy; a scene from a *chanson de geste*; and a multitude of subtle commentaries on the romance's construction. The romance's explicit intertextuality and its resulting self-referentiality as a work of literature establish it as a fundamental text in the history of modern authorship. Focusing on the self-referential aspects of the romance as "a romance about literature" are the studies by Jung, Baumgartner, Zink, Lacy, Dragonetti, Huot, and Callahan.

Michel Zink's *Roman rose et rose rouge* is one of the first critical studies to examine this text's literary components and their function within the economy of the romance. His influential reading of the *Rose* as an extended meditation on how literature can signify and what it can say reveals the "substitutions and displacements" (62) of the

work:

Narrative logic... is replaced by an abundance of particular signs, born of exploded and displaced elements, giving to the romance a meaning which is not generalizable and which is no longer based on narrative organization. One could say... that the functions of the tale are shattered in favor of romance indices... [to] offer the public a new reading of the romance of adventure, whose *conjointure* no longer yields the *sens*. (67-68)
A la logique du récit... se substitue un foisonnement de signes particuliers, nés de ses éléments éclatés et déplacés, donnant au roman un sens qui n'est pas généralisable et qui n'est plus fondé sur l'organisation narrative. On pourrait dire... que les fonctions du conte sont brisées au profit des indices romanesques... [pour] offrir une lecture nouvelle au public des romans d'aventures, dont la conjointure ne livre désormais plus le sens.

Zink credits the marked presence of other literatures in the *Rose* with foregrounding the necessary indirectness and metonymy of literary discourse, but is this all Jean Renart meant to achieve? What is the purpose of embedding lyric into the narrative (or clothing the lyric in a narrative)? What changes result in each from the association with the other?

The *Roman de la Rose* transgresses narrative boundaries, breaks the narrative frame, to invoke other literary forms, other aesthetic worlds and other modes of delivery and reception. The juxtaposition of lyric and narrative forms does not yield a balanced and static hybrid. Particularly in light of Jean's insistence on its originality and effect, we must not underestimate the immediate and visceral impact on his contemporary audience of this unexpected intrusion of one form into another. Rather, the joining of lyric and narrative in this poem must be seen as a dynamic union, producing an explosive opening-out of perceptual and semantic possibilities. The collision of art-forms creates formal and generic tensions which, in their turn, yield a mutual commentary on the genres in question, a deformation and transformation of them. I believe that Jean Renart's goal is an expanded text, a romance which bursts out of the boundaries of the genre as he found it by encompassing other literary forms (lyric, *chanson de geste*, etc.) and by pointing outside its verbal frame to artforms perceived in other, non-literary modes (music, painting, dance). These imports interact among

themselves, forming (as M.-R. Jung says) a *sous-conversation* which structures the work and extends its meanings.

Early critics who faulted the *Rose* for its narrative thinness were conditioned by the genre conventions of twelfth-century romance; they were looking for a recognizable (and male) protagonist, an intensifying series of knightly adventures, a touch of the Breton *merveilleux*, and they did not find them here. Thus they made a value judgment of an observation: the narrative structure of the *Rose* is slight by romance standards. More than a romance, it is in fact an inquiry into lyric conventions, an incorporation and interrogation of the typically static, reflective lyric moment. The emotive moment of lyric pause, conventionally expressed in the first person, is here expanded--or, better, translated--into a third-person narrative which takes place at a court.

The incorporation or contextualization of the lyric world requires an observance of the conventions of that world in order to keep the whole from degenerating into nonsense or parody. Thus we see Conrad falling in love with Liënor by report alone and from a distance. Jean postulates Liënor as the perfect woman, universally so acknowledged. The emperor acts out the well-defined role of the poet-lover of the courtly *chanson* (Baumgartner, 263). Also present in the story is the specter of the *losengier*, who ruins the love out of jealousy and spite (although, less typically for the lyric than the romance, the object of his slander is the lady rather than the lover). Even the familiar motif of the need for secrecy and of the threat of disaster if the love should become known, not usually an element in the romance world, fits into the story. Jean occasionally smiles at the more implausible conventions of the lyric as, for example, when he has one knight ask another if a mutual friend, who at last report was dying of love, is to be at the tournament; the friend answers that in fact he will be present, God having resuscitated him for that very purpose (2101-06).

Of course, the *Rose* does also feature conventions of courtly romance. The idealization of the court, with its Maytime array of entertainments and elegances, is reminiscent of idealized court settings at the openings of *Le Chevalier au Lion* and the Provençal *Flamenca*. The list of Conrad's perfections, both personal and political, recalls the putative perfection of Arthur. Conrad's desire for valiant knights to enhance his court and do him credit and the tension between this all-male dynamic and the love relationship are also familiar from romance. Finally, the comic resolution and renewal in which political stability and

personal happiness are effected simultaneously through a timely and integrative marriage is a romance feature from *Erec* on, although it is less usual for the king himself to be the protagonist. This resolution entails ultimately the end not only of lyric (the *grand chant courtois* is predicated on stasis and suffering) but also of narrative (the romance depends on continually new conflicts and obstacles), and lyric and narrative together fade out at the end: the poems and story stop together.

Thus the stance of the encircling narrative toward the literary worlds it borrows from is one of mingled respect and ironic distance; the very blending of lyric with narrative entails discarding both the atemporal, ahistorical space of the first and the traditional adventure itinerary of the other. The single largest adjustment the narrative makes to the lyric world, however, is precisely the attenuation of action in favor of emotion and discourse as generative forces and focuses in the tale (Zink, *Roman rose*, 23; Lacy, 780).

Focusing on language, the romance paradoxically moves beyond language in its narrative modalities. It is a tale embellished by musical performances or evocations of them, performances whose topic is nearly always love. Its slight narrative movement is suspended time and again for a rich, lush, almost excessive description of visual beauty (in itself a paradox), and its resolution depends on the thwarting of word with word. Jean Renart joins word, sound, and image, widening the perceptual and semantic field of the work by evoking areas of sensual immediacy beyond the spoken word, which is the romance's mode of reception. This widening of sensory appeal is not unprecedented in romance by any means; word-painting of the vivid aspects of aristocratic life has always added color and brilliance to the courtly romance. But the extension of this range of sensory appeal to include music, dance, and lyric poetry suggests that Jean was attempting to represent experience more completely, in greater detail and variety, than his predecessors in the genre. By importing music into his work, he increases not only its generic self-awareness but also its modes of perception (or illusions of modes of perception). By opening a window onto lyric poetry and music (the distinction is a later one), he admits not only the view immediately glimpsed out of it (the intercalated verse itself) but also the frame of reference of that verse and the common store of lyric poetry in his audience's memory. The ultimate paradox of this suggested remedy to an implied inadequacy on the part of the

spoken word is, of course, that it is effected solely through the spoken word, as the unique manuscript of the *Rose* is neither notated nor illustrated.

The songs are inserted into almost every situation in the poem, suspended only during three (rare) sections of heightened narrative activity, and never for more than 500 lines. Three types of song are most frequently represented: the *rondeau*, the *chanson d'histoire*, and the courtly *chanson*; their function of internally recapitulating the surrounding narrative situation creates a "hall of mirrors" effect (Limentani 1980, 312). The *rondets de carole* are sung by young, happy, courtly people who with Conrad's help have eluded the jealous old bores and are enjoying outdoor dancing and flirtation. The entire context is reprised in the texts of the songs themselves: the flowers, fountains, greenery; the motifs of hoodwinking the jealous husband, dressing up for a lover, and suffering from lovesickness; and the restorative meeting "down there, beneath the bough" are all present both in the narrative and in the songs the characters sing. The insertions thus duplicate and actualize, in fixed lyric form, the settings in which they occur.

Each of the sixteen inserted *rondeaux* echoes not only the surrounding text but also the earlier occurrences of the genre. The couplets of the *rondeaux* are astonishingly uniform throughout the romance, beginning either "Main se leva bele Aeliz" [Fair Aeliz rose up early], or "La gieus, desoz la raim" [Down there, beneath the bough], or some slight variation thereon. All sixteen are essentially versions of the same woodland theme, with a level of lexical repetition which makes each forcibly recall the others. The several *chansons d'histoire* or *chansons de toile* sung in the romance work similarly to reflect their contexts and to link separate textual moments. In their room, as they are interrupted at their sewing, Liënor's mother sings the first, about Aude and Doon, and Liënor herself sings the second and third, "Siet soi bele Aye" [Fair Aye sits] and "La bele Doe siet au vent" [Fair Doe sits in the wind]. Although Liënor does not yet have a lover, these songs "partially reflect, variously refracting" their context and suggest implications for her future (Limentani 1980, 313). They reflect her narrative situation only potentially and incompletely, presenting an inexact but suggestive reflection of her and serially reinforcing the association of Liënor with a lover in a lyric genre.

The longest *chanson d'histoire* (and the longest insertion in the

poem), "Bele Aiglentine," is sung not by a woman but by a knight from Normandy, accompanied by Jouglet on the vielle. Instead of a partial reflection of the immediate context, as when Lïenor and her mother sang, while sewing, about ladies who sat and sewed, in "Bele Aiglentine" we have a prospective reflection of the whole narrative crux in which Lïenor effectively forces her lover to marry her (Limentani 1980, 313). The refrain to the story of this intrepid heroine, "Or orrez ja / comment la bele Aiglentine exploita" [Now you will hear / how fair Aiglentine managed], neatly foreshadows Lïenor's inventiveness and determination. Together the *chansons d'histoire* form an intensifying series which presents a telescoped and kaleidoscopic version of Lïenor's story, collapsing present and future narrative developments into a composite (fractured) present. Thus linear temporality is undercut in another textual strategy modifying the familiar modes of romance.

The insertion of any lyric text into a narrative one, as a deliberate reflection of the latter, "contextualizes" the lyric, ties it to a specificity and a narrative movement it does not normally encompass. Clearly the reverse is also true: the intruding form lyricizes the context, allowing a forum for emotional expression which the courtly romance may not often provide. The inserted lyric gives us not only a more elaborate exposition of a character's feelings but also, when he himself decides that the lyric expresses his emotional state, a view of his perception of those feelings. Of the thirteen courtly *chansons* inserted fragmentally into the *Roman de la Rose*, eleven are sung either by Conrad or for him at his request. The self-conscious lyricism of what Dragonetti christened the *grand chant courtois* is reserved almost exclusively for him, and only of him is it explicitly said to represent or at any rate suit his emotional state at the time of singing.

Conrad's *chansons* provide an entire web of perspectives on his emotional state; and since he (unlike Lïenor in the *chansons d'histoire*) expresses his own feelings through his songs, they reveal his determined self-definition as a courtly lover. Their demanding form and strict commonality of theme--formally and circumstantially incongruent with the narrative setting--point less to future development (as was the case for Lïenor) than to Conrad's possible "self-imprisonment in courtly codes."⁵ The fact that he falls in love with a description of distant unknown perfection, itself a topos of the lyrics he sings, argues that his paralysis within courtly conventions is of his own choosing; his joy, like his suffering, is of his own creation. He embraces a poetic scenario

which does not exist at all, which never develops in the course of the romance; and our realization of this calls his pose seriously into question.

Conrad sings a series of five *chansons courtoises* which share common motifs and themes. Like most lovers who relate their own sufferings to a song, he sees connections which are actually tenuous at best. When he sings, for example, "Li noviaus tens" [The new season] by the Châtelain de Coucy, the song's initial narrative parallel with Conrad's plight degenerates into complete incongruity by the end of the stanza; the crusade-song has little to do with his scenario. Gace Brulé's "Contrel tens" [Despite the weather] rings even more hollow: the winter introduction in the text's springtime setting, the complaint that love punishes him because he has been too faithful and devoted (this, from the emperor whose battle cry is not "As armes!" [To arms!] but "As dames!" [To the ladies!]), the lament that he has lost his love, make this lyric notably incongruous with its narrative setting.

Conrad's lyrics occur throughout the body of the romance (ll. 486-4140) and present the plot as Conrad would like to imagine it. The lyrics function on two levels, both to depict his ideal image of himself and his lady and to highlight the disjunction between this depiction and the narrative we are reading. Conrad consistently tries to link his own situation to a pre-fabricated scenario which never does come about. His series of lyric self-representations culminates in the May Day celebration which immediately precedes Lïenor's arrival and her resolution of the crux. That celebration ends by recalling, I think explicitly, Conrad's first lyric, "Quant flors et glais et verdure s'esloigne" [When flowers and gladiola and greenery depart, 846ff.]. Thus the series of parallel lyrics, which define the possible worlds of Conrad's adoption of the poet/lover role, is closed off and recalled for the reader. We now have good reason--quite apart from Lïenor's determination and the general air of celebration--to think that something will happen to free the courtly lover frozen inside his inflexible but somehow inappropriate lyric conventions.

Some critics have seen Conrad's pose as bespeaking an immobility and helplessness which Lïenor must reverse with her truer and more physical lyricism (Baumgartner, 263; Jung, 44). For Jung, falsehood and fiction emanate from the court and from courtly literature, while truth is linked to the manor where Lïenor and her family live (46). I find this to be far too inflexible an allegorization of

the lyric genres in play. Rather than correcting Conrad's courtly-lyric illusions with her Maytime lyricism, Lienor complements them, and the various illusions coalesce. Thus her arrival is not "the moment in which truth replaces fiction" (Jung, 37) but only the moment where the scattered fictions of the text are collected into a whole. The inclusion of other worlds, other poetic frames of reference, in the expanded text represents the valorization of all the partial truths which add up to reality, but no one of which represents it adequately. The dissolution of generic borders in the *Roman de la Rose* is thus a positive value; it offers a hope of enhancing the incomplete representational capacity of language.

Sources and Influences

Lejeune notes that Jean Renart has broken with the subject matter of the romance up to his time; he abandons the Matter of Britain and the *romans d'antiquité* to produce a romance from a traditional tale for which we have many attestations (1935, 51). Although we have analogues for the tale he retells, however, we have no obvious source texts for him to have taken it from. The *Roman de la Rose* tells of a woman whose virtue is maligned and who is ultimately proven innocent. Gaston Paris identified the tales sharing this plot as "the wager cycle," including *Le Roman du Comte de Poitiers*; *Le Roman de la Violette*; *Le Roman du roi Flore et de la belle Jeanne*; *Le Miracle d'Oton, roi d'Espagne*; Shakespeare's *Cymbeline*; and Boccaccio's *Decameron* II.9. In these works two men make a bet--one that his wife is faithful to him, the second that he can seduce her. The latter presents falsified "evidence" of the wife's disloyalty which for a time persuades her husband, but the villain is ultimately found out and the wife restored to her husband's favor.

While the *Roman de la Rose* follows this plot in its broadest outline, Jean Renart suppresses the motif of the wager itself; the arch-courtly emperor Conrad and his new favorite Guillaume make no such vulgar bet. Instead, an envious seneschal takes it upon himself to impugn Lienor's virtue. Moreover, the woman whose purity is in question is Guillaume's sister, not his wife, and the object of Conrad's marital ambitions. Finally, it is Lienor herself who clears her name and

wins her imperial husband. Thus with all the changes which Jean Renart has worked on the tale-type, we cannot say that his use of it is automatic or naive.

If there is a source for the tale, we know of no source for the use either of songs or of living personages in the romance (Lejeune 1935, 52, 83 ff.). The romance introduces the Emperor Conrad as having lived "jadis" [in the past], but the tale goes on to mention and to feature names and titles of quite unmistakable contemporaneity. A series of noble extras--the Duke of Mainz, the Count of Savoy, Michel de Harnes, Eude de Ronquerolles--consort with the imaginary figures of the Emperor, Guillaume, Jouglet, and Lienor, and this fashion caught on. During the course of the thirteenth century the so-called "roman réaliste" became more diffuse than either the romances of Arthur or those of antiquity; representative titles include *Galeran de Bretagne*, *Le Roman de l'Escoufle*, *Joufroi de Poitiers*, *Jehan et Blonde*, *Le Roman du Comte d'Anjou*, and *Manekine*.

The term "réaliste" stands in some need of definition; Jean Renart's realism lies more in setting a chivalric romance in the present or near past than in representing that setting exactly. Rita Lejeune lists the following characteristics of the "roman réaliste": the recourse to verisimilitude, if not to reality; lengthy and detailed descriptions of characters, clothing, settings, and objects; precise geography; a pseudo-historic hero of a recognizable French family; frequent interruptions of the story by the author; an interest in psychology and moral conflicts; dialogues modeled on actual conversational style; the inclusion of a broad social spectrum; and an authorial distance from the material signaled by numerous personal comments (1974, 439-40). Thus where *Meraugis de Portlesgues* features locations such as the Cité sans nom, Lindesores, and Cavalon, the *Roman de la Rose* is set in Maastricht, Mainz, and Cologne. Where the protagonists of *Le Bel Inconnu* bear such patently invented names as Guinglain, Blonde Esmerée, and la Fée aux Blanches Mains, the hero of the *Joufroi de Poitiers* is set up as the son of Count Richier of Poitiers and Queen Aliénor and travels to the court of King Henry in England. Where the plot of *Le Chevalier au Lion* takes its impetus from a supernatural adventure, the plot of *Le Comte d'Anjou* takes its impetus from the moral dilemma of a daughter whose father nourishes an incestuous love for her.

The "roman réaliste" thus has nothing to do with nineteenth-century realism and everything to do with a rapprochement between the

"real" world and the much freer world of literary invention. As Jean Renart himself notes in his prologue to *L'Escoufle*,

*...mout voi conteors ki tendent
a bien dire et a recorder
contes ou ne puis acorder
mon cuer, car raisons ne me laisse;
car ki verté trespasse et laisse
et fait venir son conte a fable,
ce ne doit estre chose estable
ne recetee en nule court;
car puis que mençoigne trescort,
et vertés arriere remaint... (10-19)*
[I often see storytellers in the habit
of expertly narrating and telling
stories which my heart just can't
accept, for reason won't allow it;
for when a man abandons and violates truth
and turns his story into nonsense,
then that shouldn't be accepted as reliable,
or recited in any court;
for when the lie runs on ahead,
then truth remains behind...]

Jean Renart asks for a story which he can reconcile with his intelligence, not a story which actually happened yesterday. Thus *Galeran de Bretagne* takes Marie de France's *Le Fresne* and expands it to romance length within a recognizable setting. Plots still make unabashed use of wild coincidence, as in *Manekine*, when the much-abused heroine, her loving husband, and her unworthy father all converge simultaneously on Rome for a recognition and reconciliation scene. In the *Roman de la Rose* itself, Patricia Terry and Nancy Vine Durling note Liënor's "improbable knowledge of the seneschal's own secrets, and ... his unforeseeable insistence on a trial by ordeal" (5). Such adventures may strain our notion of verisimilitude, let alone of reality, but they remain infinitely more plausible than magic fountains, perilous beds, and sword-bridges.

Moreover, there is substantial observation and description of contemporary life in these romances, even if it is fantastically exaggerated. The "good life" is represented with nearly caricatural hyperbole; if we count the number of times tablecloths are laid and

removed in this romance we might imagine that no one had time to do anything but eat. The image Jean Renart paints of the gaiety, courtliness, beauty, honor, talent, and capital (literal and symbolic) circulating in Conrad's court can never have been intended to be a "realistic" portrayal of any court in any period. This is a lushly embellished vision of reality, in which nothing is impossible; Lecoy points out the unrealistic economics of this wish-fulfillment fantasy (1980, 19-20). But among the hyperbole we also see scenes and sketches of everyday life, the way meals were served and letters carried, hunts conducted and tournaments concluded, carols danced and *chansons d'histoire* sung, lodgings taken and equipment commissioned. These scenes observed from daily life were tremendously influential, imitated in writing which is not technically "romance" at all. We recognize in *Le Tournoi de Chauvency* a descendant of the tournament of Saint-Trond and in the political satire of the *Roman de Fauvel* a development of Jean Renart's vehement views on court preferments and inherited nobility.

The other great influence which Jean Renart had upon his successors is, of course, his insertion of lyric fragments into his romance. Especially in French, an extraordinary number of works reprise this signal innovation.⁶ As Rita Lejeune notes, Jean Renart himself remains oddly obscure; he is never cited, referred to, or quoted, but he is very widely imitated (1974, 444). Indeed, it was for the presence of those lyric insertions that the *Roman de la Rose* was first seriously studied in the nineteenth century. Its closest and probably first imitator was Gerbert de Montreuil's *Roman de la Violette*, which shares the calumniated woman plot and transforms the rose on Liënor's thigh into a violet on Eurïaut's breast. Its forty lyric fragments also declare its debt to the *Rose*. Works which "use" their lyric fragments in ways analogous to those of the *Rose* include *Méliacin ou le cheval de fust*, *Le Tournoi de Chauvency*, and the *Roman de Flamenca*; the lyrics are spoken or sung by various characters within the tale. Innovations upon Jean Renart's hybridizing innovation occurred early on, however; in *Le Roman de la Poire*, the *Prison Amoureuse*, and the *Panthère d'Amours*, the lyrics are spoken or sung by the narrator, the lady he loves, or allegorical figures for him. The *Roman du Castelain de Coucy et de la Dame de Fayel* includes the lyrics of the historical trouvère the Châtelain de Coucy, setting them into contexts which purport to explain their composition. There is a tremendous variety among the works

influenced directly or indirectly by the *Roman de la Rose*, and the scope of the subject is too vast to treat adequately here.⁷

The presence of the lyric fragments in the romance has stimulated medievalists to imagine various possibilities for its telling. How might such a romance have been "performed"? Jean Renart himself tells us that "s'en vieult l'en i chante et lit" [if you want you can sing and read it, 19], and that those "qui chanter et lire l'orront" [who hear it sung and read, 22] will never tire of it. Is it likely that someone reading aloud from the manuscript would have continued to read the inserted lyrics as though they had never been associated with music? Is it possible that the romance might have taken on the contours of a theatrical performance? Maria Coldwell notes that "viewing the romances as group efforts opens up... the use of different performers to read the lines of different characters in the romances. A little mime could arise spontaneously..." (69). There is, I suspect, considerable "performance nostalgia" involved in reading the *Roman de la Rose*; more than with any romance without lyric insertions, it is tantalizing to speculate on the format in which its audiences heard it and almost impossible to visualize it without some musical component.⁸

The recent appearance of a video performance of the *Roman de la Rose* featuring the Folger Consort and starring Peter Becker, Mark Bleeker, and Andrea Folan shows one way in which the romance might be "read and sung."⁹ This lively version is intended primarily as a teaching tool rather than as a reconstruction of performance practice in the thirteenth century. Indeed, from what we know of how romances were received, I suspect that the *Roman de la Rose* was never in fact either acted out or, as in the modern musical, interrupted by full-fledged performances of entire lyrics or even of the stanzas which are copied out in the text. The manuscript which transmits the *Rose* gives us no clues about a musical performance at all, beyond the slight suggestions of the prologue, and these could merely refer to the reader or reciter, who might choose to sing the lyric fragments. There is neither musical notation in the manuscript nor any provision or room for any. The romance is bound with three other romances which have no particular connection to music at all; it seems to have been considered a romance to be read or recited aloud in the usual fashion.

The inclusion of music to match lyric insertions in narrative seems to have begun toward the mid-thirteenth century; certainly it would seem a logical extension of Jean Renart's lyric-narrative hybrid.

Manuscripts containing the *Roman de la Poire* and the *Prison d'Amours*, both from around the middle of the century, have musical notations attached to their insertions in some manuscripts, as do the rather later *Renart le Nouvel*, the *Court de Paradis*, and the *Roman de Fauvel*. I would look for such formal experimentation as musical performance several decades after the *Roman de la Rose*, and not at the very first systematic conjoining of lyric and narrative in vernacular romance.

Editorial Policy for This Text and Translation

The *Roman de la Rose* has come down to us in only one manuscript, Vat. Reg. 1725. This late thirteenth-century parchment manuscript came into the possession of the Vatican library with the collection of Queen Christina of Sweden after her death in 1690.¹⁰ Now bound in red leather, it measures 287mm by 191mm and consists of 130 folios, written in two columns of approximately 46 lines each; but it is possible that it earlier contained another fifty or so folios.¹¹ It contains four romances, Chrétien's *Chevalier de la Charrette* (1r-34r) and *Chevalier au Lion* (34v-68r), the *Roman de la Rose* (68v-98v), and Raoul de Houdenc's *Meraugis de Portlesguez* (98v-130v). The script is clear and legible, making limited and consistent use of abbreviations; the letters sit above the traced lines, and the body of each column sits two spaces to the right of the first letter of each line, presenting a neat and orderly appearance overall. The manuscript contains no illuminations, but there are many ornamented initial letters in red with blue hairlines or vice versa. The scribe makes a very limited use of punctuation, occasionally indicating pauses with a "bullet" set slightly higher than a period would be; to indicate both questions and exclamations he uses a single sign which resembles a period with a rounded check mark set above it.

The *Roman de la Rose*, as I have noted, has had a variegated reception history in the last one hundred years. It has been considered too wooden, too slow, too mannered, too unlike its predecessors, too realistic; it is now praised as subtle, self-referential, polysemous, slyly aware of epistemological and interpretative conundra, and even, in recent years, feminist. As the agendas of medieval literary study change,

it should not be surprising that the procedures and goals of text editing are also changing, attracting a renewed interest even on the part of those medievalists previously happy to rely on printed editions. The post-structuralist focus on the marginal, the indeterminate, the repressed and the plurivocal has challenged the familiar criteria of printed editions of medieval texts, and the habits of mind which underlie them. The belief that there is an original text to be reconstructed through the film of variants and scribal errors is beginning to look dated, and there is a new tendency toward an old (specifically Bédierist) reluctance to intervene drastically in manuscript evidence.

Just as our preoccupations and questions regarding medieval literature are no longer what they were, we might now consider revising the form in which we are accustomed to seeing medieval texts. I would suggest that we might profitably consult medieval texts in a drastically less inflected form than the standard critical editions we have known best, with their cargo of emendations, interpretations, and contextualizations which delimit and fix the medieval artifact. While I recognize that no two editors would agree on what constitutes a proper critical edition, most would include: word and sentence division; quotation marks, and hence dialogue attribution; internal punctuation; rendering in typescript with modern letter forms; expansion of abbreviations; and indication, if not outright correction, of "patent" scribal errors. Our familiarity with, and even dependence on, these adaptations generally cause a counterproductive alienation from the material existence of the text when finally we encounter it in manuscript.

The disjunction between the original artifact in the manuscript and the tidied, deciphered, and (metaphorically at least) pre-translated and interpreted versions we take for granted, typically provokes a case of manuscript shock. This shock is not merely, or even primarily, a function of the script; it is also a function of letter forms, undivided words, unfamiliar abbreviations, blocks of text unpunctuated, aleatory spelling, and the absence of any crutch, annotation, guide, glossary, or solid ground beneath one's feet. Can it be an entirely good thing for us to be so dramatically alienated, so dependently disconcerted, when we come face to face with our own objects of study? An illustrative parallel would be an art historian who has never worked even from slides or photographs of medieval painting and sculpture but only from nineteenth-century watercolors of the originals, done in nineteenth-century style. If the notion of meaning as inhering in expression, of

content as inhering in form, is at all valid, then the differences between a medieval manuscript and a standardized printed document of this century *will* influence the way we read.

As I have noted, three complete editions of the *Rose* exist, all of which are highly interventionist in nature; it is my goal in this edition to actually edit as little as possible. I have taken advantage of the fact that only one manuscript is known to transmit this romance, to reproduce the text of that manuscript as exactly as possible. The existence of Félix Lecoy's outstanding edition frees me to present instead a diplomatic transcription of Vat. Reg. 1725. While a diplomatic transcription does not reproduce all the information to be gleaned from a manuscript, it has seemed to me to be a useful middle ground between a fully-edited version and (as one exasperated colleague snorted) "just sending them a damned photocopy" of Vat. Reg. 1725. I do not claim to offer a neutral, transparent representation of the manuscript, particularly since my strong readings are merely displaced to the opposite page in the English translation. I can only offer the more reticent interventions of a diplomatic transcription as a functional compromise between the manuscript itself and the brushed and tidied edition of Lecoy.

I have reproduced the text of the manuscript even where it appears "faulty," and even where the earlier editors have made very persuasive corrections. This may seem to argue a mindless and servile devotion to the manuscript and its all-too-human scribe, but I have explained why I prefer to present the version we have, which someone read and found intelligible despite its various imperfections. I have inserted no punctuation or word divisions; I have reproduced the text's capital letters and indicated decorated initials with boldface; I have respected the positioning of the lyric insertions along with the wavy lines and multiple "o"'s which fill up the lines at the end of some of them. (This last occasionally generates accidental, and unfortunate, humor: transcribed, these signs look rather like the ooh-ooh-ooh choruses of 1950's music.) I have expanded abbreviations within square brackets; the only exception to this is "et," virtually always written as a crossed 7 in the manuscript, which appears so frequently that I preferred not to clutter up the text with that many more square brackets. I have consistently represented the layout of lines on the page, which, particularly in the case of the lyric insertions, differs considerably from Lecoy's edition. In addition, I have deleted the lines with which Lecoy

supplemented the insertions on the basis of evidence from various *chansonniers*; I include only what this manuscript transmits.

I have not been able to reproduce the letter forms and abbreviations, colored initials, double columns, scribal corrections, and marginal glosses and comments by Fauchet, the late sixteenth-century librarian who was perhaps the first assiduous modern reader of the *Roman de la Rose*. The result of my many compromises may look to some like an abominable hybrid, and those readers are warmly encouraged to consult Lecoy's admirably clear edition. To facilitate comparison with Lecoy's edition, I have retained his line numbers, suspending numeration during the lyric insertions which he had expanded.

Outstanding translations of the *Roman de la Rose* now exist in English and French, yet I believe there is a reason to offer another. This translation aims to represent the line structure of the original though not with complete faithfulness. Thus every difficulty, every repetition, every hitch is as visible as I could make it and as it could not be in a translation whose aim is to smooth over such problems. I try to represent Old French as literally as possible and still be writing modern English. Though some expressions will be translated approximately, I try not to generalize from the literal (if sometimes bewildering) text to a pallid and perhaps limiting version of it. Thus when the narrator says of Guillaume's mother that she

nama onques chainse sale [never loved a dirty robe]

I translate literally, leaving it to the reader to decide whether this means she was meticulous in her dress, fastidious in her cleanliness, upright in her morals, or all three.

Nonetheless, in order to keep the *Roman de la Rose* from sounding foreign and inept (which it certainly never did in its day), I have made the usual accommodations to modern prose style. I have homogenized verb tenses, since however frequent tense-switching may be in speech, it is unfamiliar and distracting in a written text. I have inserted subject pronouns and proper names to clarify the subject of a sentence. I have made positive many of the formulations which are automatically, in Jean Renart's Old French, negative. For example, when Nicholas proposes to ride ahead to see to Guillaume's lodging, the latter replies,

ci ne voi se bien non [I see nothing but good in that].

While my own statements above would tend to justify leaving the

phrase as it is, the frequency of the phenomenon makes it cumbersome, and I have sometimes opted for a parallel positive formulation ("That sounds good to me," "That's a good idea"). I have tried to soften the exaggerated quality of certain exclamations; for example, Jouglet's enthusiasm over Guillaume's gift of a light summer tunic seems stilted and overdone in English:

ha dex fet jugles com ci a [Oh, God, said Jouglet, what a
biau sorcot et net por este nice light tunic for summer]

I would have liked to represent what was common or consistent usage for this text without reducing the English translation to accidental comedy, but this proved impossible; so I have made the changes and trust to the reader to look left to the Old French.

The *Rose* contains many formulaic expressions which, since they no longer enter into our repertory of conversational filler, stand out from the translation much more than they probably did in the original. The many variations on "so help me God," for example, receive undue emphasis if translated literally each time:

se dex garist mon cors dessoine
iamar en douterez de rien
 [if God should protect my body from pain
 you will never worry about anything]

I have tried to soften them without homogenizing them completely. The frequent use of expressions which recall oral delivery, however, I have left in the text despite their possibly distracting tone; "*ce sachiez*," which occurs some forty times in the *Rose*, I translate variously as "you may be sure," "believe me," "you should know." Any direct reference to the audience ("*Lors veissiez*" [then you would have seen]) I have retained, in the interest of signalling every time the narrator breaks the frame. Individual anomalies or difficulties with the language I have glossed in the notes which follow the translation; an asterisk in the line-number column draws the reader's attention to a note on that line or passage.

It is my pleasure to thank the many people who have helped me during this project: Barbara Altmann, my symbiotic colleague, made valuable suggestions throughout, and to her I dedicate this project. Helen Solterer, Christopher Callahan, and John Baldwin made their work on the *Roman de la Rose* available to me. Margaret Louise Switten was generous with encouragement and networking. Patricia

Terry and Nancy Vine Durling kindly invited me to contribute to their forthcoming volume on Jean Renart. James J. Wilhelm approved the project and waited patiently for its completion, making improvements as always, and I thank him sincerely.

Notes to the Introduction

1. Both the prologue and the explicit of this text refer to it as *Le Roman de la Rose*, and although it is frequently called *Le Roman de Guillaume de Dole* to avoid confusion with the better-known romance by Guillaume de Lorris and Jean de Meung, I retain the older title.

2. Lecoy, "Sur la date," 396-99. If the *Rose* does refer to the *Lai* (and the claim rests literally on one word), then it is of course probable that the *Lai* was written first.

3. Lejeune does milk these hints for all they are worth, and her speculations, while unverifiable, are intriguing (1935, 350-68).

4. Regarding Jean Renart's suggestion at the end of the *Rose* that he entered a religious order, Lejeune notes that he could have been referring ironically to the expression "Renart qui se fait moine" (1935, 362).

5. The phrase is Joan Ferrante's, from "Self-Imprisonment of Man and Society in Courtly Codes" (The Andrew W. Mellon Lectures [New Orleans, La: Graduate School of Tulane University, 1984]).

6. The most complete list to date is probably in Boulton, *The Song in the Story*, pp. 295-297.

7. I examine in considerable detail the use of lyric insertions in narrative in several national literatures, in a book in progress tentatively entitled *The Author at Play: The Medieval Lyric-Narrative Hybrid*.

8. R. Lejeune, 1935, 150; Huot, 1989; and Callahan, 1991.

9. The video was produced and directed by Robert Bender with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities and Mount Holyoke College. For purchase, contact Medieval Romance, Box 1974, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA 01075. It is sold with two

booklets--the script and commentary--which I have not yet seen.

10. For the early history of this manuscript, see the sources noted by Servois in his edition.

11. Servois, Introduction, xx, n. 3.

Select Bibliography

1. Editions and Translations:

Bédier, Joseph. *"Le Lai de l'Ombre" par Jean Renart*. Paris: Firmin Didot, 1913.

Dufournet, Jean, Jacques Kooijman, René Menage, Christine Tronc, trans. *Guillaume de Dole ou Le Roman de la rose*. Second edition. Paris: Champion, 1988.

Lecoy, Félix, ed. *Le Roman de la Rose ou de Guillaume de Dole*. Classiques Français du Moyen Age. Paris: Champion, 1962 (rpt. 1979).

Lejeune, Rita, ed. *Le Roman de la Rose ou de Guillaume de Dole*. Paris: Droz, 1936.

Servoies, G. *Le Roman de la Rose ou de Guillaume de Dole, publié d'après le manuscrit du Vatican*. Paris: Firmin Didot, 1893 (rpt. Johnson Reprint Corporation, 1965).

Terry, Patricia, and Nancy Vine Durling, trans. *The Romance of the Rose or Guillaume de Dole*. Middle Ages Series. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1993.

2. Critical Studies and Related Works:

Accarie, M. "La fonction des chansons du *Guillaume de Dole*," in *Mélanges Jean Larmat. Regards sur le Moyen Age et la Renaissance (Histoire, langue, et littérature)*. Annales de la Faculté des Lettres et Sciences Humaines de Nice, 39. Paris: Les Belles Lettres, 1983. 13-29.

Baldwin, John. "Once There Was an Emperor: A Political Reading

of the Romances of Jean Renart." Forthcoming in *Une nouvele chose: Essays on Jean Renart's Guillaume de Dole*, Nancy Vine Durling and Patricia Terry, eds.

Baumgartner, Emmanuèle. "Les Citations lyriques dans le *Roman de la Rose de Jean Renart*." *Romance Philology*, 35,1 (1981-82), 260-66.

Boulton, Maureen Barry McCann. *The Song in the Story: Lyric Insertions in French Narrative Fiction, 1200-1400*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1993.

Callahan, Christopher. "The Evolution of the Lyric Insertion in Thirteenth-Century Narrative." *Essays in Medieval Studies*, 7 (1990), 29-40.

-----, "Interpolating the Musical Text of the Lyric Interpolations: *Guillaume de Dole* and the Trouvère Manuscript Tradition." *Essays in Medieval Studies*, 8 (1991), 43-58.

Coldwell, Maria V. "*Guillaume de Dole* and Medieval Romances with Musical Interpolations." *Musica Disciplina*, 35 (1981), 55-86.

De Looze, Laurence. "The Gender of Fiction: Womanly Poetics in Jean Renart's *Guillaume de Dole*." *French Review*, 64,4 (1991), 596-606.

Diller, George T. "Remarques sur la structure esthétique du *Guillaume de Dole*." *Romania*, 98 (1977), 390-398.

Dragonetti, Roger. *Le Mirage des sources: l'art du faux dans le roman médiéval*. Paris: Seuil, 1987. Esp. 151-225.

Duport, Danièle. "Les chansons dans *Guillaume de Dole*," in *'Et c'est la fin pour quoy nous sommes ensemble': Hommage à Jean Dufournet*, Vol. II. Paris: Champion, 1993. 513-523.

- Durling, Nancy Vine. "The Seal and the Rose: Erotic Exchanges in *Guillaume de Dole*." *Neophilologus*, 77 (1993), 31-40.
- Fourrier, Anthime. "Les Armoiries de l'empereur dans *Guillaume de Dole*." *Mélanges offerts à Rita Lejeune*, vol. 2. Gembloux: J. Duculot, 1969. 1211-26.
- Gégou, Fabienne. "Jean Renart et la lyrique occitane," in *Mélanges de langue et de littérature offerts à Pierre Le Gentil par ses collègues, ses élèves, et ses amis*. Paris: SEDES, 1973. 319-323.
- Huot, Sylvia. "Text as Performance, Text as Artifact: Contrasting Models for the Romance with Lyric Insertions," Ch. IV of *From Song to Book: The Poetics of Writing in Old French Lyric and Lyrical Narrative Poetry*. Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 1987.
- . "Voices and Instruments in Medieval French Secular Music: On the Use of Literary Texts as Evidence for Performance Practice." *Musica Disciplina*, 43 (1989), 63-113.
- Jung, Marc-René. "L'Empereur Conrad, chanteur de poésie lyrique." *Romania*, 101 (1980), 35-50.
- Kay, Sarah. "Romance Appropriations," Ch. V of *Subjectivity in Troubadour Poetry*. Cambridge Studies in French. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990.
- Krueger, Roberta L. "The Appropriation of Woman in Four Old French Romances of the 'Cycle de la Gageure.'" In *Seeking the Woman in Late Medieval and Renaissance Writings: Essays in Feminist Contextual Criticism*, eds. Sheila Fisher and Janet E. Halley. Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 1989. 21-50.
- Lachet, Claude. "Présence de Liénor dans le *Roman de la Rose* de Jean Renart," in *'Et c'est la fin pour quoy nous sommes*

ensemble': *Hommage à Jean Dufournet*, Vol II. Paris: Champion, 1993. 813-825.

Lacy, Norris J. "'Amer par oïr dire': *Guillaume de Dole* and the Drama of Language." *French Review*, 54,6 (1981), 779-87.

Lecoy, Félix. "A propos du *Guillaume de Dole*." *Travaux de Langue et de Linguistique*, 18,2 (1980), 7-22.

----- . "Sur la date du *Guillaume de Dole*." *Romania*, 82,3 (1961), 379-402.

----- . "Sur quelques passages difficiles du *Guillaume de Dole*." *Romania*, 82,2 (1961), 244-60.

Lejeune-Dehousse, Rita. *L'Oeuvre de Jean Renart: contribution à l'étude du genre romanesque au moyen âge*. Bibliothèque de la Faculté de Philosophie et Lettres de l'Université de Liège, 51. Paris and Liège: Faculté de Philosophie et Lettres and E. Droz, 1935.

Lejeune, Rita. "Jean Renart et le roman réaliste au XIIIe siècle." *Le Roman jusqu'à la fin du XIIIe siècle*, eds. Jean Frappier and Reinhold R. Grimm. Tome 1 (Partie historique). *Grundriss der romanischen Literaturen des Mittelalters*, Vol IV. Heidelberg: Carl Winter Universitätsverlag, 1978. 400-453.

----- . "Le *Roman de Guillaume de Dole* et la principauté de Liège." *Cahiers de civilisation médiévale*, 17 (1974), 1-24.

Limentani, Alberto. "Effetti di specularità nella narrativa medievale." *Romanistische Zeitschrift für Literaturgeschichte*, 4 (1980), 307-21.

----- . "Jean Renart dal romanzo anti-idillico all'anti-romanzo." *Mittelalterstudien Erich Köhler zum Gedenken*, eds. H. Krauss and D. Rieger (Heidelberg: Winter, 1984), 166-78.

- Mattioli, Carmela. "Sulla datazione del *Guillaume de Dole*." *Cultura Neolatina*, 25 (1965), 91-112.
- Paris, Gaston. "Le cycle de la gageure." *Romania*, 32 (1903), 481-551.
- Payen, Jean-Charles. "Structure et sens de *Guillaume de Dole*," in *Etudes de langue et de littérature du moyen âge offertes à Félix Lecoy*. Paris: Champion, 1973. 483-498.
- Psaki, F. Regina. "Reading Liënor: Gender and Genres in the *Roman de la Rose* ou de *Guillaume de Dole*." Forthcoming in *Une nouvele chose: Essays on Jean Renart's Guillaume de Dole*, Nancy Vine Durling and Patricia Terry, eds.
- Rey-Flaud, Henri. "La jeune fille à la rose: le secret et l'amour," Ch. IV of *La Névrose courtoise*. Paris: Navarin, 1983. 77-104.
- Solterer, Helen. "At the Bottom of Mirage, a Woman's Body: *Le Roman de la Rose* of Jean Renart." *Feminist Approaches to the body in Medieval Literature*, eds. Linda Lomperis and Sarah Stanbury. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1993. 213-233.
- Woledge, Brian. "Bons vavasseurs et mauvais sénéchaux." *Mélanges offerts à Rita Lejeune*, vol. 2. Gembloux: J. Duculot, 1969. 1263-77.
- Zink, Michel. *Belle: Essai sur les chansons de toile, suivi d'une édition et d'une traduction*. Paris: Champion, 1978.
- , *Roman rose et rose rouge: "Le Roman de la Rose ou de Guillaume de Dole" de Jean Renart*. Paris: A.G. Nizet, 1979.
- Zumthor, Paul. "La Chanson de Bele Aiglentine," in *Mélanges de linguistique, de philologie et de littérature offerts à M. Albert*

Henry. Paris: Klincksieck, 1970. 325-337.

3. Performances:

Lamandier, Esther. "Chansons de Toile au temps du *Roman de la Rose*." Recording of unaccompanied voice. Paris: Aliénor, 1983.

Bender, Robert. "Jean Renart: The Romance of the Rose or of Guillaume de Dole." Video and accompanying booklets. Teaching Medieval Romance Through Video Performance (a project supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities and Mount Holyoke College). 1993.



Taylor & Francis

Taylor & Francis Group

<http://taylorandfrancis.com>

JEAN RENART

THE ROMANCE OF THE ROSE
OR OF GUILLAUME DE DOLE
(ROMAN DE LA ROSE OU DE
GUILLAUME DE DOLE)

	Cil qui mist cest [con]teen roma[n]s ouil a fet noter biaux cha[n]s por ramenbrance des cha[n]cons veut q[ue] ses pris et ses renons voist en rainciens en cha[m]paigne et q[ue] libiaux miles lapregne	4
D	e nantuel uns des preus del regne c ar aussi co[m] lenmet la g[ra]ine	8
E	s d[ra]s por avoir los et pris E insi ail chans et sons mis E n cestui romans de larose	
Q	ui est une novele chose	12
et	sest des autres si divers et brodez p[ar] lieux de biaux vers	
Q	ue vilains nel porroit savoir c e sachiez de fi et devoir	16
b	ien a cist les autres passez I anuls niert deloier lassez	
c	ar sen vieult len i chante et lit et sest fez par si grant delit	20
Q	[ue] tuit cil sen esioiront Q [ui] chanter et lire lorront Q [ui]l lor sera nouviaux toz iors	
I	l [con]te darmes et damors	24
et	chante dambedeus ensamble S est avis a chascun et samble	
Q	[ue] cil qui a fet les romans Q [ui]l trovast toz les moz des chans	28
S	iafierent aceuls del [con]te S i [con]mence ici son [con]te.	
E	n lempire ouli alemant ont este maint ior et maint an	32
S	i co[m] li [con]tes dit segnor o t iadisunemp[er]eor	
c	orras ot no[n] dep[ar] sonpere Q ui devant lui fu emp[er]ere	36
m	[ou]t le tindre[n]t les genz a preu N e vos avroie hui [con]te preu	
Q	uels ho[m] il fu carne porroie o nques au g[ra]nt siege de troie	40
N	othome si bien entechie S ihai mout vilain pechie	
et	en este mengier a fu	

The one who put this tale into Romance *
 and had beautiful lyrics written in it
 for remembrance of those songs
 wants his praise and renown 4
 to go to Reims in Champagne,
 and for the fair Milon de Nanteuil,
 one of the nobles of the realm, to learn of it.
 For just as people put scarlet dye 8
 into cloth to earn praise and fame,
 so has this author put lyrics and music
 into this *Romance of the Rose*,
 which is something quite new 12
 and altogether different from the others,
 embroidered in places with fair verses
 that an uncultivated man would not recognize.
 You may be very sure that 16
 this romance surpasses the others by far.
 No one will ever tire of hearing it,
 for, if you want, you can sing and read it;
 and it is so delightfully composed 20
 that all who hear it sung and read
 will take pleasure in it,
 for it will always be new to them.
 It tells of arms and of love, 24
 and sings of both together;
 and it will seem to everyone
 that he who wrote the romance
 also composed all the words of the songs, 28
 so well do they fit those of the story.
 And here he begins his tale.
 In the empire where the Germans
 have lived many a day and a year, 32
 as the story goes, lords,
 there was once an emperor.
 He was named Conrad, after his father
 who was emperor before him. 36
 He was considered very valiant;
 at the end of a day I wouldn't have finished
 telling you what kind of man he was, for I couldn't.
 Not even at the great siege of Troy 40
 was there such an accomplished man;
 he hated base sin, and sitting at home
 to eat by the fire in summer. *

d	es cele hore queil nez fu	44
N	oi nuls issir de sabouche	
G	[ra]nt serement ne lait reproche	
m	[ou]t se[con]tint com sages rois	[F. 68 v 2]
t	ot fist p[ar] decrez et parlois	48
v	[er]s sa gent ce que fere dut	
o	nq[ue]s homene mes[con]nut	
p	[or] poverte ne porrichece	
b	ien afferroit asa hautece	52
c	e quil ert sages et cortois	
D	ededuit doiseax et de bois	
N	esavoit nus hom avant lui	
I	l valoit de tels rois.i.mui	56
c	omil a puis el regne eu	
p	[ar] effors de lance et descu	
[c	on]queroit toz ses anemis	
I	a arbalestiers ni fust mis	60
p	[or] saguerre en auctorite	
p	[ar] averte par mauveste	
L	es tienent ore li haut home	
p	[or] demi le tresor de rome	64
N	e vousist il adroit na tort	
Q	uns en eust prodome mort	
e	n son ost.nes son anemi	
et	si portoit lescu demi	68
a	u gentil [con]te de clermont	
A	u lion rampant [con]tremont	
d	or et dazur et dautre part	
p	lus estoit hardiz dun liepart	72
Q	[ua]nt il ert armez lescu pris	
et	savez dont ge m[ou]t lepris	
S	a iustice et senvoiseure	
p	[ar] ert de si g[ra]nt tempreure	76
Q	enni trovast ia point doutrage	
S	a hautece et son vasselage	
b	essoit mout selonc safranchise	
S	estoit a toute gentelise	80
a	pers et dous et ademis	
S	e frans hom se fust en lui mis	
d	erians dont nus le querelast	
p	[or] mil mars dor qui li donast	84
N	el soufrist il a forsiugier	
I	l ne haoit pas de legier	

From the hour of his birth 44
 no one had ever heard a strong oath
 or an ugly epithet come out of his mouth.
 He behaved like a good king:
 with laws and decrees he did everything 48
 for his people that he ought to do;
 he never ruled wrongly against a man
 on account of poverty or wealth.
 His wisdom and courtesy 52
 were well-suited to his high rank;
 no man knew more than he did
 about hawking and hunting.
 He was worth a hundred of those kings *56
 which that country has had since his day:
 he conquered all his enemies
 by force of lance and shield;
 no crossbowman was ever placed 60
 in command in his wars.
 Out of greed and wickedness
 great men employ them now;
 but not even for half the treasure of Rome 64
 would Conrad have wanted, rightly or wrongly,
 for a crossbowman to kill
 any nobleman in his army, or even his enemy.
 He bore a bipartite shield, with on one side 68
 the arms of the noble counts of Clermont,
 and on the other a gold lion
 rampant on an azure field;
 but he was bolder than a leopard 72
 when he was armed, shield in hand.
 Do you know why I esteem him so highly?
 His severity and his enjoyments
 were both so moderate 76
 that there was never any excess in either.
 About his high rank and his valor
 he was modest, in keeping with his nobility;
 he was open to courtliness 80
 and steady and mild.
 If a noble man turned to him
 to resolve a dispute,
 not for a thousand gold marks--no matter 84
 who offered!--would he make an unjust ruling.
 He did not hate lightly, nor did he love

N	e namoit riens [con]tre sonor	
Q	[ua]nt il savoit viel vavassor	88
N	e dame veve en poverte.	
a	ciaus estoit samain overte	
et	donoit robes et avoir	
N	e voloit autre moeble avoir	92
m	es grant plente de ch[evalie]rs	[F. 69 r 1]
I	oiax dras de soie et destriers	
l	ors donoit ila grant plente	
t	oziors et iver et este	96
e	stoit sa corz g[ra]nz et pleniere	
d	e mainte diverse maniere	
I	l fesoit chas[cun]s son mestier	
I	l ne lessoit bon ch[evalie]r	100
E	n son pais por quil errast	
Q	[ui]l ne retenist ou donast	
S	elonc son pris terre ou chastiax	
N	e portoit autres mangoniax	104
A	sesguerres nautres p[er]riers	
C	il portent lances et banieres	
p	[or] lui au partir de lestor	
c	il p[re]noient les hautes tors	108
c	il ardoient lesg[ra]nz chastiax	
N	i portent autres mangoniax	
D	e lost dehors a ces dede[n]z	
I	l meniassent aincois asdenz	112
l	es hourdeis desor les murs	
b	ien en ert lor sires seurs	
I	a nasseist riens ne fust prise	
p	uis quil avoit la chose emprise	116
T	el tresor doit rois amasser	
	por quil fust [con]fondre et quasser	
S	es anemis a son pie metre	
b	ien sen sot icist entremetre	120
Q	[ui]lnavoit encor point de feme	
m	es le voeil a ceaus de so[n] regne	
E	n eust il prochainement	
m	[ou]t en parloient tuit sovent	124
l	i haut baron li un as autres	
S	e ciz bers qui est mieudres dautres	
m	uert sanz hoir nos somes tuit mort	
N	ature les prent et remort	128
Q	uil a entrax norriz este	

anything that went against his honor.	
If he learned of any aged vavasour	88
or widowed lady in poverty,	
his hand was open to them	
and gave clothing and wealth.	
He wanted no other capital	92
than a great number of knights.	
He gave them jewels, silk cloth,	
and horses in great plenty.	
At all times, summer and winter,	96
his court was rich and lavish;	
and many different professions	
each plied his trade there.	
Conrad left no good knight	100
traveling the countryside;	
he retained him, or gave him	
lands or castles according to his worth.	
He took no other mangonels	104
or catapults to war than his knights;	
they carried lances and banners	
for him from the outset of the battle,	
capturing high towers	108
and burning great castles.	
They brought out no other war machines	
to get at the besieged within;	
they would rather have chewed away	112
the wooden fortifications atop the walls.	
Their lord was very secure with them;	
nothing besieged was ever left uncaptured,	
once he had undertaken it.	116
Such treasure must a king amass,	
and because Conrad had done this	
he was able to defeat and crush his enemies,	
and bring them to his feet.	120
The fact that he had as yet no wife--	
though if his subjects had their way	
he soon would--was something	
that the high lords often	124
discussed among themselves:	
"If this lord, who is better than any other,	
dies without an heir, we'll all be ruined!"	
Nature seized them and reproached them	128
with the fact that he had been brought up	

et	si lora maint ior porte	
m	[ou]t g[ra]nt honor et fet g[ra]nt bien	
et	sil moroit sanz hoir p[or] rien	132
N	e seroient il iames lie	
p	[or] ce lenont m[ou]lt arresnie.	
l	i plus haut prince de son regne	
m	es genvrece qui en lui regne	136
N	eli lessoit pas acorder	
A	inz fet les g[ra]nz trez encorder	
S	es aucubes ses pavellons	[f. 69r 2]
E	n este q[ua]nt il est sesons	140
d	e deduire en prez et en bois	
d	es citez sen issent manois	
e	n ces g[ra]nz forez por esbatre	
d	edenz.iii.iornees ou.iiij.	144
N	elissoit conte ne [con]tesse	
N	e chastelaine ne duchesse	
N	e dame quil nenvoiaist querre	
d	edenz.vii.iornees de terre	148
N	e vavassor a bone vile	
Q	uil ne donast pas une bille	
Q	[ue] coutast mes q[ua] gre fust fet	
p	[or] ce quil veut quil soit retret	152
Q	[ua]nt ilert morz apres sa vie	
d	e biaux gieus et sanz vilonie	
S	e ioe ovoec ses [con]paignons	
I	l porpense les ochesons	156
[c	on]ment chas[cun]s fera amie	
O	r sachiez quil ni faud[ra] mie	
Q	uil ne lait p[or] riens quil puist fere	
l	i bons rois li frans debonere	160
I	l savoit toz les tors damors	
A	umatin quant paroît li iors	
l	ores venoient li archier	
d	edevant son tref p[or] huchier	164
o	r sus segnor sirons en bos	
l	ors oissiez soner cez cors	
p	oresvellier cez ch[evalie]rs	
et	ces viex chenuz croupoiers	168
F	esoit chas[cun] baill[ier].i.arc	
o	nq[ue]s voir puis le tens roi marc	
E	mp[er]eres ne sot vuidier	
S	i bien pavellon den[con]brier	172

among them, and had often brought them
 great honors, and done them great favors;
 and if he died without an heir, 132
 they would never be happy again.
 So the highest princes of the realm
 often remonstrated with him,
 but his youth, which ruled him, 136
 did not let him agree to marry.
 Instead he had his great tents,
 canopies and pavilions, set up in summer,
 during the season for pleasure 140
 in the meadows and the woods.
 Everyone went out from the towns in a hurry
 to amuse themselves in the great forests.
 Within three or four days' ride 144
 there wasn't a count or countess,
 a chatelaine, duchess or lady
 whom Conrad didn't summon,
 nor the vavasour of a good castle 148
 within seven days' ride.
 He didn't care a button about the cost
 as long as everything was done to his taste,
 for he wanted to be remembered 152
 after he was dead and gone.
 With his companions he played
 fair games, without vulgarity.
 He planned ways for each one 156
 to have a love; and you may be sure,
 no man would have to be without one
 if Conrad had anything to do with it,
 for the good king, the noble gentleman, 160
 knew all the tricks of love.
 In the morning, when day dawned,
 the archers came shouting
 from before Conrad's tent: 164
 "Up, lords, and we'll go to the woods!"
 Then you'd have heard horns blow
 to awaken the knights,
 and the lazy old greybeards 168
 were each given a bow.
 Truly, not since the time of King Marc
 was there an emperor who knew so well
 how to clear out bores from his pavilions. 172

M	[ou]t estoit sages et voiseus as jalous etas envieus	
F	esoit baillier espiez et cors	
S	imontoit ovoec iusqaubos	176
p	or ce que il ne retornassent	
A	suns a proie quil alassent	
b	oissoner ovoec les archiers	
et	li autre as liemiers	180
p	[or]sievre qui sont bon as cers	
t	ant lorbaille deduiz divers	
Q	[ui]lsen tindrentbien apaie	
et	q[ua]ntil furent avoie	184
et	mis enla haute forest	[f 69 v 1]
a	udeduit qui m[ou]t miex liplest	
S	en retorne lues droit arriere	
p	[ar] une ancienne charriere	188
S	oi tierz de chevaliers riant	
et	si bon chevalier errant	
Q	[ui] sestoient debrisie darmes	
S	e dorment de desoz cez charmes	192
E	n paveillons de draz de soie	
I	ames voir enlieu ou ge soie	
N	everrai gent atel solaz	
N	etante dame estreite alaz	196
E	n chainses ridez lor biaux cors	
S	ont chevex ondoianz et sors	
c	hapelez dor aclers rubiz	
et	ces [con]tesses en samiz	200
et	en draz dor emperials	
E	mpurlor biax cors sanz mantiaus	
et	ces puceles en bendez	
A	chapelez entrelardez	204
d	ebiax oisiaux et de floretes	
L	orgenz cors et lor mameletes	
L	es font proisier de ne sai q[ua]nz	
D	e corroietes de blans ganz	208
E	rent m[ou]t bien enharneschiees	
t	ot chantant es tentes jonchiees	
v	ont asch[evalie]rs quis atendent	
Q	ui lesbraz et les mains lor tendent	212
S	estraient sor les covertors	
Q	[ui] onques fu en tels estors	
b	ien puet savoir quel siecle ilorent	

He was very wise and clever:
 to the jealous and the envious
 he had spears and horns given,
 and he went with them up to the woods 176
 to make sure they didn't come back.
 Some he asked to go
 with the archers, to flush game;
 others, to follow the hunting-dogs, 180
 which were good for hunting deer;
 he gave them so many different tasks
 that they went off well-satisfied.
 But once they were underway 184
 and off in the deep forest,
 he quickly turned right back
 to the pleasure he liked much better,
 taking an old wagon-road 188
 and laughing, with two of his knights.
 Meanwhile his good knights-errant,
 worn out from jousting,
 were asleep under the hornbeams 192
 in their tents of silken cloth.
 Never again, wherever I may go,
 will I see such delightful people:
 ladies with their lovely bodies 196
 laced tightly in pleated shifts,
 with curling blond hair,
 and gold circlets with bright rubies;
 countesses clad in samite 200
 and imperial cloth of gold,
 wearing no cloaks over their fair bodies;
 the maidens in figured silks
 with garlands interwoven 204
 with fair birds and little flowers,
 their beautiful figures and little breasts
 winning them I don't know how much admiration.
 With little belts and white gloves 208
 they were very well provided.
 All singing, into the rush-strewn tents
 they went to the knights who awaited them,
 who reached out their arms and hands to them 212
 and drew them onto the coverlets.
 Anyone who was ever in such battle
 can well imagine what a time they had!

M	[ou]tlor est poi se cil demorent	216
Q	ui estoient ale en bos	
et	lemp[er]eres les galos	
E	rtia reperiez asatente	
V	ers cez qui ont m[ou]t autre entente	220
Q	[ue] cilquil a el bois lessiez	
E	n.i.tref point toz eslessiez	
c	riant ca ch[evalie]rs as dames	
I	lne pensent pas alor ames	224
S	i ni ont cloches ne moustiers	
Q	uil nen est mie g[ra]nz mestiers	
N	e chapelains fors les oiseaus	
m	[ou]torent tuit delor aveaus	228
D	ex ta[n]t beaus chans et ta[n]t beaus diz	
S	or riches coutes sor beaus liz	
I	ot dit aincois quil fust prime	[f. 69 v 2]
et	q[ua]nt tens delever aprisme	232
l	ors veissiez genz acesmer	
d	esamiz dedras dout[re]mer	
D	ebaudeq[ui]ns dor a oiseaus	
o	rent et cotes et manteaus	236
A	penes fresches bien ovrees	
d	ermine et de gris chevronees	
a	sables noirs soef flerans	
S	i beles genz si acesmans	240
N	e troveroit on ore mie	
L	emp[er]eres ne se vout mie	
M	iexvestir que firent li autre	
D	e.ij.samis de lun enlautre	244
F	ula soe robe bendee	
S	avez qui m[ou]t laamendee	
U	ne pucele li atache	
d	e ses mains une bele atache	248
d	es laz de sablanche chemise	
l	abelemain dont ella mise	
A	it or.c.foiz bone aventure	
et	sili change sa ceinture	252
a	une corroiete blanche	
o	r lagart bien la p[re]uz la franche	
Q	[ue] sanz lor valent bien les pierres	
L	es esmeraudes verz co[m] ierres	256
x	l. marz entre.ii.freres	
b	eneoiz soit tex empereres	

They didn't care how long
 those in the woods stayed away. 216
 At a gallop the emperor
 had already returned to his tent
 and to those who had other things on their minds 220
 than the ones he had left in the woods.
 Eagerly he spurred toward the tent,
 crying, "Here, knights, to the ladies!" *
 They weren't thinking about their souls; 224
 there weren't any bells or churches
 or chaplains there, except the birds--
 nor any great need of them!
 They all had their hearts' desire. 228
 Lord! how many fair songs and tales,
 were told there on rich cushions,
 on fair beds, before prime! *
 When it came time to get up, 232
 then you should have seen them dress:
 they had tunics and cloaks
 of samite, imported cloth,
 and golden brocade patterned with birds, 236
 with new well-made trim
 of chevroned ermine and squirrel fur
 and sweet-smelling black sable.
 People this beautiful and elegant 240
 aren't to be found any more.
 The emperor had no wish to dress
 any better than the others:
 his robe was trimmed 244
 with two colors of samite.
 Do you know what made it even better?
 With her own hands a maiden
 tied on a beautiful ribbon 248
 from the laces of her white shift
 (may the fair hand which put it on him
 be a hundred times blessed!)
 and replaced his belt 252
 with one of her own little white ones;
 may she keep his belt well, the noble, gentle girl,
 for even without the gold the stones were precious,
 emeralds as green as ivy-- 256
 at least forty marks even between brothers.
 Blessed be such an emperor!

Q	uant ilfurent leve vers tierce	
	p[ar] le bois vont ioer g[ra]nt piece	260
t	oz deschaux manches descousues	
t	ant quil sont es illes venues	
A	sfonteneles qui sordoient	
m	[ou]t pres de la ouil estoient	264
l	ogie el bois por le deduit	
C	a .ii.ca.iii.ca.vii.ca.viii.	
S	assieent por laverlor mains	
l	ilieux nestoit mie vilains	268
a	inz estoit verz co[m] en este	
et	si avoit m[ou]t g[ra]nt plente	
D	efloretes indes et blanches	
a	incois quil cousissent lor manches	272
l	event lor oils et lor beaus vis	
l	es puceles ce mest avis	
l	or atorment fil de filieres	
Q	[ue]les ont en lor aumosnieres	276
o	rnesai ge q[ue] riens lor faille	[f. 70 r 1]
A	sdames en lieu de touaille	
E	mpruntent lor blanches chemises	
p	[ar] ceste ochoison si ont mises	280
l	or mains a mainte blanche cuisse	
I	enedi mie que cil puisse	
E	stre cortois qui plus demande	
et	li disners et laviande	284
e	st aprestez napes assises	
et	les dames se resont mises	
a	u retour et li chevalier	
Q	[ui] neprisent mauves dangier	288
l	a coue dune violete	
A	inz chante[n]t ceste chanconete	
E	non deu sire se nelai	
	lamor de lui mar lacoï[n]tai	292
A	inz q[ue] ceste fust dite tote	
[c	on]mence uns autres en la route	
L	a ius desoz laraime	
	Einsi doit aler qui aime.	296
c	lere i sourt la fontaine.ya.	
E	insi doit aler qui bele amie a-----	
A	inz quele fust bien [con]mencie	300
U	ne pucele secorcie	
d	un trop biau chainze a.i.blo[n]t chief	

When they got up, around tierce,
 they went to play a long while in the woods, 260
 all barefoot, sleeves unsewn,
 together they reached the place
 where the fountains which sprang up
 quite close to where they were staying 264
 in the woods to entertain themselves.
 Here two, here three, here seven, here eight
 sat down to wash their hands.
 The place was far from squalid; 268
 rather it was as green as summer,
 and there was a great abundance
 of little flowers, blue and white.
 Before they sewed up their sleeves, 272
 they rinsed their eyes and their beautiful faces.
 The maidens, it seems to me,
 bound the sleeves with thread from spools
 which they carried in their alms-purses. 276
 I don't know that they were lacking anything:
 from the ladies, in place of towels,
 the knights borrowed their white shifts;
 with this pretext they placed 280
 their hands on many a white thigh.
 (I'd never say that a man can be
 courtly, if he asks for more than this.)
 The supper and the food 284
 were prepared, and the tablecloths laid.
 The ladies turned back,
 and so did the knights;
 they wouldn't give a violet's stem 288
 for false modesty, but instead
 sang this little song:
 In God's name, sire, if I don't have
 his love, alas that I ever met him. 292
 Before this song was finished,
 another in the group began:
 Down there, beneath the bough,
 that's how he who loves should go,
 the fountain wells up clear, oh!
 That's how he should go, who has a fair love.
 Before this one was well underway, 300
 a blond-haired maiden
 who had shortened her beautiful skirts,

E	n re[con]mence derechief	
S	emes amis ma guerpie	304
	p[or] cene morrai ge mie-----	
A	inz q[ue] ceste fust bien fenie	
U	nedame sanz vilonie	
Q	[ui] ert suer au duc demaience	308
H	aut et seri et cler [con]mence	
M	ain se leva bele aeliz	
	dormez ialous ge vos enpri	
b	iause para miex sevesti.desoz le raim	312
M	ignotement la voi venir cele q[ue] iaim---	
et	li gentiz que[n]s de savoie	316
c	hante ceste tote une voie	
M	ain se leva bele aeliz	
	mignotement la voi venir	
b	ien se para miex se vesti.en mai	320
D	ormez ialous et ge menvoiserai-----	
et	li quens de lucelebourc	
Q	ui amoit iloc par amor	324
u	nedame degrant solaz	
Q	[ui] chantoit de mains et de braz	
m	iex q[ue] dame qui fu pieca	[f. 70 r 2]
p	[or] lamor de li [con]menca	328
C	est tot lagieus elglaioloi	
	tenez moi dame tenez moi	
u	ne fontaine i sordoit ae	
t	enez moi dame p[or] les maus dam[er]-----	
S	ichantant en itel meniere	
R	esont tuit revenu arriere	
t	rusq[ua]s trez ou il ot bel estre	336
c	ar cil qui de ce furent mestre	
l	esont derbe fresche jonchiez	
b	iaux les ont fez et affetiez	
et	ont oste coutes et liz	340
e	nsamble metent cez tapiz	
p	[or] estre a gregnor largete	
V	arlez i ot a g[ra]nt plente	
I	loec lor ont leve donee	344
Q	[ue] la viande ert aprestee	
t	ables mises et napes beles	
l	i ch[evalie]r et les puceles	
et	les dames sirent par tires	348
N	ese [con]tint pas come sires	

began this one from the beginning:
 If my love has left me, 304
 I won't die because of it.
 Before this one was quite finished
 a refined lady, the sister
 of the Duke of Mainz, 308
 began high and pure and clear:
 Fair Aeliz rose up early,
 --sleep, jealous one, I beg of you--
 she dressed well, adorned herself better beneath the bough.
 Daintily I see her come, the one I love!
 The noble Count of Savoy 316
 sang this, right afterward:
 Fair Aeliz rose up early,
 daintily I see her come,
 she dressed well, adorned herself better, in May.
 Sleep, jealous one, and I'll take my pleasure!
 The Count of Luxembourg
 passionately loved a lady 324
 whose beauty gave great pleasure,
 and who sang and danced *
 better than any other lady who ever lived;
 for love of her he began: 328
 Right down there, among the gladiola,
 hold me, lady, hold me! *
 A fountain welled up, oh!
 Hold me, lady, against the pangs of love.
 Singing in this way
 they all returned
 to the tents; it was pleasant there, 336
 since those who were in charge
 had scattered fresh grasses inside;
 they had adorned and straightened them
 and removed cushions and beds, 340
 and put the rugs together
 to make more room inside.
 There were many serving-boys
 who gave the company water 344
 when the meal was ready,
 and put out tables and nice tablecloths.
 The knights and the maidens
 and the ladies sat in rows. 348
 Conrad did not act the part of lord,

c	arses g[ra]nz senz et sa proece	
S	abonte et sa g[ra]nt largece	
l	assist m[ou]lt plus bas q[ue] ne die	352
c	eli vint de g[ra]nt cortoisie	
et	le viel duc de genevois	
F	ist il seoir a son hautdois	
a	son col riches piax de martres	356
o	r cuit q[ue] li vesq[ue]s de chartres	
S	amast miex iloc q[ue]n.i.sane	
Q	[ue] chas[cun]s i garist et sane	
S	es oils desgard[er] les meruelles	360
t	antes faces cleres [ver]meilles	
et	cesdouz viz lons et traitiz	
et	ces biaux sorcils porvoutiz	
et	cez blons chiez et cez biaux cors	364
et	quant li quens de sagremors	
o	t chante une chanconete	
v	iande orent et bone et nete	
v	in cler et froit de la musele	368
et	vaisselemente novele	
p	astez de chevrols et lardez	
d	e ce i ert g[ra]nz la plentez	
d	e chevriex de cers et de dains	372
et	fromages et cras et sains	
d	e la riviere declermont	[f. 70 v 1]
N	est riens qui a viande mont	
p	[or] quele soit bone en este	376
d	ont il ni ait a g[ra]nt plente	
et	adevise et a soushet	
N	iach[evalie]r ne senhait	
p	orlemp[er]ere qui senvoise	380
et	cest droiz q[ue] chascuns aoise	
S	a ioie por senvoiseure	
[c	on]qes si gentil creature	
c	omil ert ne but ne menia	384
et	son voeil ne pensast il ia	
S	a armes non et a amors	
et	sot tant autres bones mors	
[c	on]qes tex bers ne fusil vit	388
m	[ou]lt lisist et plot ce quilvit	
D	e sa t[er]re et de son roiaume	
t	ante pucele et tante dame	
et	tant bel ch[evalie]r de pris	392

for his great good sense and his valor,
 his bounty and his great generosity
 made him sit much farther down than I will tell 352
 (because of his exquisite courtesy),
 and the old duke of Geneva
 he seated at his high table,
 with a rich marten collar at his throat. 356
 I do believe that the bishop of Chartres
 would rather have been there than at a synod,
 for it would heal and refresh anyone
 to see the marvels there: 360
 so many radiant, rosy faces,
 sweet, lovely, and well-shaped,
 fair arching eyebrows,
 blond hair and beautiful figures. 364
 When the Count of Sagremor
 had sung a little song,
 they had good and dainty food,
 clear cold Moselle wine, 368
 with new plates to eat from,
 pasties of kid and lard
 (there were plenty of these),
 of roe-deer, red deer and fallow-deer, 372
 and good rich cheeses
 from the banks of the Brêche:
 there was nothing in the way of food
 which is in season in summer 376
 that they didn't have in great plenty
 and prepared just as you could wish.
 Not a knight there was unhappy,
 because the emperor was enjoying himself; 380
 and it was right that each one should be
 the happier for Conrad's enjoyment,
 for a nobler creature than he
 never ate or drank. 384
 If he had his way he would never think
 of anything but arms and love,
 and he had so many other good qualities
 that there was no other lord like him. 388
 It suited and pleased him to see
 so many maidens and ladies,
 and so many fair worthy knights,
 from his lands and his realm. 392

l	i seriant qui furent	pris	
d	oster les nappes q[ua]nt il virent		
Q	ue nus ne menia si en firent		
c	e quil durent m[ou]t belement		396
l	i vallet saillent erroment		
p	[or] leve as bacins si la donent		
S	achiez q[ue] maint si abandonent		
p	[or] tenir au bon roi ses manches		400
et	cez dames a cez mains blanches		
d	ont m[ou]t lor plesoit la veue		
Q	[ua]nt la p[re]miere ot leve eue		
et	cil et celes qui en voudrent		404
et	lesbeles dames envoudrent		
l	or mantiaxentor lor biax cors		
et	la feste [con]menca lors		
d	es estrumenz et de deduit		408
M	outtaria poi apres ce cuit		
Q	[ua]nt li veneor li archier		
Q	ui alerent huimain chacier		
et	li ch[evalie]r poresbatre		412
o	u par.iii.cheminsoup[ar].iiii.		
R	epairent fesant lor menees		
G	[ra]nt plente de bestes troussees		
c	hevriexbiches et cers de cresse		416
Q	[ua]ntlanoise des cors apresse		
et	cil qui portent les forchiez		
o	u il ont mises lor daintiez		
et	cil ascorsdecerf ramuz	[f. 70 v 2]	420
l	ors ni remest g[ra]nz ne menuz		
E	spavellons qui ne sen isse		
E	n[con]tre ciaus qui mainte bische		
o	rent le ior tolu la vie		424
t	uit dient quil ont g[ra]nt envie		
d	e ce quil ni furent ale		
c	il qui avoient buisine		
S	en revindre[n]t m[ou]t hericie		428
c	ilveneor malatirie		
E	sledes chapes de grisan		
Q	ui ne furent noeves oan		
et	heuses viez rouges et dures		432
et	roncins durs sanz ambleures		
et	sont en sanc iusqas jarrez		
et	ont derrier euls lors brachez		

The servants, who knew to remove
 the tablecloths as soon as they saw
 that no one was still eating,
 performed their tasks very elegantly. 396
 The serving-boys ran quickly
 for basins of water, and offered them.
 You may be sure that many went
 to hold the good king's sleeves, 400
 and those of the ladies with the white hands,
 the sight of which pleased them greatly.
 When the first lady had had water,
 and all those who wanted it, 404
 and the fair ladies wrapped
 their cloaks around themselves,
 then the celebration began
 with instruments and entertainment. 408
 It was not long afterwards, I believe,
 that the hunters and the archers,
 who had gone out hunting early,
 and the knights, for amusement, 412
 by three or four different paths
 came back, sounding their return,
 with a great quantity of game loaded high,
 roe-deer, hinds and fat stags. 416
 When the hunting-horns approached,
 with those who carried the forked branches
 where the delicacies were carried,
 and those with the antlered bucks, 420
 then everyone of high degree and low
 came out of the tents
 to meet those who had killed
 so many hinds that day. 424
 They all said that they wished
 they had gone along too.
 Those who flushed game
 came back all disheveled, 428
 the hunters badly turned-out
 in ugly capes of grey cloth
 which were surely not new this year,
 and boots which were old, red and rough, 432
 on bony nags with no proper gait,
 soaked in blood clear up to the hocks;
 behind them they brought their hounds,

et les liens desor lesbraz	436
I l ne porterent roiz ne laz	
a incois p[ri]strent aforcoier	
.iii. cers sanz ce que li archier	
o cirent ciaux qas mains lor vint	440
Q [ui]len ocistrent plus de.xx.	
b iches chevriex lievres goupieix	
Q [ui] ont pardevers lescortieix	
d an constanz tolu maint chapon	444
l i keu firent la venoison	
d estrousser si la portent cuire	
N i anul qui de faim ne muire	
d e ceuls qui ont en bos este	448
P [or] ce ont li seneschal haste	
a la cuisine lor viande	
Q ue q[ue] lemp[er]eres demande	
a ses veneors des noveles	452
c ez dames et cez damoiseles	
S enrevont astentes deduire	
et cil qui ne voelent ciaux nuire	
Q [ui] re[con]toient lor menconges	456
V osdeissiez q[ue] ce fust songes	
d es m[er]veilles quil lor [con]toient	
I l se rit de ce quil mentoient	
m es cest coustume de tiex genz	460
a p[re]s none fu beaus et genz	
l i soupers ap[re]stez et cuiz	
et serjans voiseus et recuiz	
D e q[ua]nq[ue] fere a cort covint	464
I ot assez et q[ua]nt cevint	
Q uel reparla des napes metre	[f. 71 r 1]
b ien fu qui sen sot entremetre	
Q assez i ot varlez et genz	468
a sbacinsas vassiax dargent	
D onent leve [con]munement	
o n les rassist si fetement	
c om il orent sis audisner	472
C il qui vindrent delbois vener	
S e sont dunepart tuit assis	
Q [ui]lne sont mi si forsis	
d e viande co[m] sont li autre	476
t ant en ont pris et dun et dautre	
Q uil nen est mesure ne [con]te	

and their leashes over their arms. 436
 They didn't bring nets or snares,
 but rather they chased three bucks
 until they dropped, without counting the archers
 who killed those deer which came to hand. 440
 As it was they killed over twenty
 hinds, roe-deer, hares, and foxes,
 who have taken many a capon
 from Squire Constant's barnyard. 444
 The cooks had the venison
 unloaded, and took it away to prepare it.
 All those who had been in the woods
 were dying of hunger, 448
 so the seneschals rushed
 the meat to the kitchen.
 While the emperor asked
 his hunters to talk about their day, 452
 the ladies and the maidens
 went back to the tents to amuse themselves,
 along with those who didn't want to interrupt
 the hunters telling their tall tales. 456
 You'd have said it was all a dream,
 the wonders they were describing.
 The emperor laughed at their lies,
 but it's always that way with such people. 460
 After nones, the dinner
 prepared and cooked was good and elegant.
 The servants, able and good
 at everything that must be done at court, 464
 were numerous; and when it was time
 to set the table again,
 there were many who knew how to do it,
 for there were many servants and men. 468
 In basins, in silver vessels
 they offered water to everyone.
 They sat down again
 just as they had sat at supper; 472
 those who had come from hunting
 in the woods all sat together,
 for they were not at all as full
 of food as the others were. 476
 They took so much of one dish and another
 that there is no keeping track of it.

l	i veneor norent pas honte	
S	il orent boef au p[re]mier mes	480
a	s bons aus destrempe daigres	
et	puis oisons et mortereux	
I	l i ot tels des amoreus	
Q	[ui] en meniassent bien ce cuit	484
m	esil souperent par deduit	
l	ordaintiez et lor venoison	
D	ont il i ot si g[ra]nt foison	
N	uls tant fustpovres nifailli	488
M	es savez dontsont malbailli	
Q	ueil ne sevent qest mesese	
E	insi les paist cils rois aese	
Q	uant il orent mengie assez	492
	et beu t[re]stot alor sez	
n	on pas rouge vin a tostees	
Q	[ua]ntles napes furent ostees	
I	lse sont tuit leve des tables	496
p	uis sont ale ioer as tables	
et	.iii.ch[evalie]rs dautre part	
R	eijoent as dez auhasart	
d	enier a autre tres q[ua].vi.	500
et	li autre resont assis	
c	il aseschez cil a la mine	
V	ieleors adras dermine	
V	ielent par cez pavellons	504
l	esdames et les [con]pegnons	
L	emp[er]eor sen issent hors	
m	ain a main emp[or] lor biau cors	
d	evant le tref en.i.prevert	508
l	es puceles et li vallet	
R	ont la carole [con]menciee	
U	ne dame sest avanciee	
v	estue dune cotele en g[ra]ine	[f. 71 r 2] 512
S	ichante ceste premeraine	
C	est tot la gieus enmi les prez	
	vos nesentez mieles maus dam[er]	
d	ames i vont p[or] caroler remirez voz braz	
V	osne sentez mie les maus dam[er] si co[m] ge faz---	
U	nvallez au p[re]vost despire	520
R	edit ceste qui nestaspire	
C	est la ius desoz lolive	
	Robinsenmaine samie	

The hunters were not slighted by being offered
 beef for the first course, 480
 marinated in garlic and verjuice, *
 and then young goose and panada. *
 Some among the amorous there were
 who would gladly have eaten it, 484
 but they dined for pleasure.
 No one, no matter how poor,
 went without their dainties and venison,
 of which there was such a supply. 488
 But do you know in what way they were ill-served?
 They did not know what discomfort was,
 for this king fed them with such ease.
 When they had eaten enough 492
 and drunk to their satisfaction
 (and not on sops of bread!),
 and the tablecloths were removed,
 they all rose from the tables. 496
 Then they all went to play a board-game;
 three knights played at dice
 instead, for small stakes
 (a penny a point up to six), 500
 and for their part the others sat down,
 some at chess, and some at dice.
 Musicians with ermine clothes
 played vielles among the tents. 504
 The ladies and the companions
 of the emperor went outdoors;
 hand in hand, without cloaks,
 before the tent in a green meadow, 508
 the maidens and the young men
 began to dance carols again.
 A lady came forward
 dressed in a red tunic, 512
 and sang this song first:
 Right down there, in the meadows,
 You don't feel the pangs of love at all!
 Ladies go there to dance carols--watch your arms! *
 You don't feel the pangs of love the way I do!
 One of the provost of Speyer's men 520
 sang this one, which was just as good:
 Down there beneath the olive-tree,
 Robin leads his love.

I	afontaine i sort serie desouz lolivete	
E	nondeu robins enmaine bele mariete----	
C	este not pas dure.iii.tours	528
Q	[ua]ntlifilz au[con]te daubours	
Q	[ui] m[ou]t amoit ch[evale]rie	
R	e[con]mence a voiz serie	
M	Ain selevoit aaliz.Iai non enmelot	532
b	iau se para et vesti soz la rocheguion	
C	ui lairai ge mes amors amie sa vosnon	536
et	laduchesse dosteriche	
Q	uisi estoit de beaute riche	
Q	enne parloit se deli non	540
R	e[con]menca ceste chancon	
M	ain seleva la bien fete aeliz	
p[ar]	ci passe li bruns li biaux robins	
b	iause para et plus biause vesti	544
m	archiez la foille et ge qieudrai la flor	
p	arci passe robins li amorous	
E	ncor enest li herbages plusdouz-----	
Q	ue de robin que daaliz	548
t	ant on chante que iusqasliz	
o	nt fetes durer lescaroles	
S	e sire oedes de ronq[ue]roles	
t	rovast tel roi ce fust barnez	552
m	es li tens est si atornez	
Q	[ue]n ne troeve mes qui bien face	
p	[or] ce sen ledist et efface	
c	heval[er]ie hui est li iors	556
c	ele g[ra]nt ioie et ciz seiors	
d	ura bien.xv.iors passez	
Q	[ua]nt cil quil avoit amassez	
v	oelent raler enlor pais	560
l	orsvenoient ce mest avis	
S	i biau present et si biaudon	
et	joiau demainte facon	
Q	[ui]ldone chas[cun] et chascune	564
I	lni avoit dame nesune	
N	e pucele q[ui]noientvaille	
C	ui il ne doinst ainz q[ue] sen aille	
et	fet chas[cun]e tant donor	568
Q	uil desert sa grace et samor	
I	tels rois doit bien tenir t[er]re	
Q	[ui] se set avoir et [con]q[ue]rre	

The fountain wells up clear beneath the little olive-tree.
 In God's name! Robin leads pretty Mariete.
 This had not lasted for three turns 528
 when the son of the Count of Dagsburg,
 who greatly loved chivalry,
 began in a clear voice:
 Aaliz rose up early; my name is Enmelot.
 She dressed and adorned herself well under Guy's rock.
 To whom shall I give my love, my dear, if not to you?
 The Duchess of Austria,
 who had so much beauty
 that no one talked about anyone else, 540
 for her part began this song:
 Lovely Aeliz rose up early,
 Handsome, dark Robin passes by there.
 She adorned herself well and dressed better;
 Walk on the leaves, and I will take the flower.
 Amorous Robin passes by here,
 And the greenery is even sweeter for it.
 Singing both of Robin and of Aaliz 548
 they sang so long that
 they made the carols last until bedtime.
 It would have been splendid if my lord
 Eudes de Ronquerolles had found such a king! 552
 But nowadays no one can find
 anyone who does good:
 for this reason chivalry today
 is debased and dying out. 556
 This joyful stay in the woods
 lasted over two weeks.
 When those who had gathered there
 wanted to return to their lands, 560
 they received, it seems to me,
 beautiful presents and gifts
 of jewels of all kinds
 that Conrad gave to one and all. 564
 There wasn't a single lady or maiden
 of any standing at all, to whom
 he did not give something before she left,
 and to each he did such honor 568
 that he deserved her favor and her love.
 Such a king may well hold lands,
 who knows how to gain and win

I	amor et le cuer de ses genz	572
C	ist assambloit les parlemenz	
p	[or] veoir ses barons ensamble	
I	l nestoit mie ce me samble	
d	eez rois ne de cez barons	576
Q	[ui] donent or a lor garcons	
R	entes et prevostez a ferme	
d	ont les terres et il meesme	
S	ont destruites et il honi	580
S	ont tot le monde aviloni	
C	emetles prodomes arriere	
et	lesmauves en lachaiere	
m	alfet bers qes met en baillie	584
Q	ue ia por nule segnorie	
N	uls vilains niert se vilains non	
C	istemp[er]eres cist prodom	
I	or fu toztensades eschis	588
d	e vavassors fesoit baillis	
Q	[ui] aiment deu et crient honte	
Q	ui sonor et q[ua]nqualui monte	
L	i gardoient come lor oils	592
I	emp[er]eres voloit m[ou]t miex	
Q	[ue] li vilain et li bouriois	
G	aaignassent de lor avoires	
Q	[ui]llor tolist por t[re]sor fere	596
c	ar q[ua]nt il en avoit afere	
I	lsavoit bien q[ue] tot ert soen	
et	celivenoit de g[ra]nt sen	
Q	a son besoig estoit tot p[re]st	600
et	le chatel et le [con]quest	
I	lnen erent se gardenon	
et	serent riche et de g[ra]nt non	
et	marcheant de g[ra]nt avoir	604
I	lnetrovoient bel avoir	
a	nule foire ou il alassent	
N	e biaucheval quil nachatassent	
p	[or] p[re]senter lempereor	608
m	outli fesoient plus donor	
C	il p[re]sent que sillestaillast	
I	anulsmarcheanz qui alast	[f. 71 v 2]
N	esiens neautres p[ar] sa t[er]re	612
p	[or] nul besoig por nule guerre	
N	e soufrist quil fust destorbez	

the hearts and love of his people. 572
 He assembled his parliament
 to see his lords all together.
 He wasn't at all, it seems to me,
 like one of these modern kings 576
 or lords nowadays who give revenues
 and landholdings to non-nobles,
 whereby the lands and men alike
 are ruined, and he himself shamed, 580
 and everyone the worse for it.
 This puts noble men down,
 and bad men into positions of authority.
 The lord who puts bad men in charge does ill, 584
 for never on account of being made a lord
 will a peasant ever be anything but a peasant.
 This emperor, this good man
 was always opposed to such people. 588
 He made overlords of vavasours
 who love God and fear shame,
 and who guard his honor and everything concerning it
 as carefully as they do their own eyes. 592
 The emperor also preferred
 to let the peasants and burghers
 make money from their own property
 rather than taking it for his treasury; 596
 for, when he needed it, he knew
 quite well that it was all his.
 This was very wise of him,
 for when he needed it, it was all available, 600
 both principal and interest:
 it was only in their keeping;
 and thus his merchants were powerful
 and rich and famous. 604
 They never found beautiful goods
 at any fair they went to,
 nor good horses, without buying them
 to present them to the emperor. 608
 These presents did him much greater honor
 than taxing his subjects.
 No merchant, either his own or foreign,
 who traveled through his country 612
 was ever permitted to be molested
 for any reason, need or war.

t	ant larrons avoit essorbez	
t	ant robeors fet essillier	616
S	i seur com par.i.moustier	
A	loit chascuns p[ar]mi son regne	
b	ien vit li hauz p[ri]nces et regne	
Q	ui si sagement tint sa terre	620
o	ravint q[ue] li quens de guerre	
a	voit guerre au duc de baiviere	
p	[or] nul avoir ne por proiere	
N	evoloit lidus don[er] triue	624
l	emp[er]ere ala enla vile	
l	e[c]onte siles apesa	
et	fist tant quelidus besa	
l	e[con]te mes ce fuapaine	628
m	[ou]t fet bien prodo[m] qui se paine	
D	e pes q[ue]rre en mainte maniere	
E	n ce quil revenoit arriere	
A	.i.sien chastel sor le rin	632
S	iert.i.i.or levez par matin	
et	li iors eschaufa vers tierce	
et	il ot chevauchie g[ra]nt piece	
c	e sachiez quil li anuia	636
U	n sien vieleor quila	
Q	on apele alacort luglet	
F	ist apeler par un vallet	
I	l ert sages et de g[ra]nt pris	640
et	savoit oi et apris	
m	ainte chancon et mai[n]t biau [con]te	
L	i vallez ert filz a un [con]te	
S	ilapela tant q[ue] cilvient	644
F	etlemp[er]eres se te vient	
d	orgoeil ou demelancolie	
Q	[ue] tu hez ta[n]t ma [con]pegnie	
D	ehez ait sanz moi qui tap[ri]st	648
E	n riant p[ar] le frain leprist	
S	issent fors del chemin amdui	
F	et li emp[er]eres iai hui	
c	ertes eu m[ou]t g[ra]nt someil	652
a	u[cun] [con]te dont ge mesveil	
m	e [con]te fet il biaux amis	
E	nriant li a loresmis	
l	e b[ra]z senestre sor lespaulle.	656
F	et ilnel tenez mie afaule	[f. 72 r 1]

Conrad had had so many thieves blinded,
 and so many robbers put to death, 616
 that everyone went through his land
 as safely as in a church.
 The noble prince lives and reigns well
 who rules his land so wisely. 620

It happened that the Count of Gueldres
 was at war with the Duke of Bavaria.
 Neither for a price nor upon entreaty
 would the duke permit a truce. 624

The emperor went to the count's aid
 and made peace between them,
 until the duke kissed the count,
 although he did it grudgingly. 628

The nobleman does well who works
 to keep the peace by various means.

Now when he was returning
 to one of his castles on the Rhine, 632

he had gotten up early one morning,
 and as the weather had gotten hot,

and he had ridden a long time,
 you can imagine that he was bored. 636

He sent a squire to summon
 one of his vielle-players

who was known at court as Jouglet.
 He was wise and well-respected, 640

and had heard and memorized
 many songs and good tales.

The squire was a count's son,
 and he called Jouglet until he arrived. 644

The emperor said, "Is it because
 of pride or melancholy

that you hate my company so much?
 A curse on him who taught you, myself excepted!" 648

Laughing he grasped Jouglet's bridle,
 and they left the road together.

The emperor said, "I've certainly
 been very sleepy today. 652

Tell me some good tale," he said,
 "to wake me up, fair friend."

Laughing he threw his left arm
 over Jouglet's shoulders. 656

Jouglet said, "Don't think this is a story:

u ne m[er]velle qui avint
 u ns bachelers qui dela vint
 o u ce ot este me [con]ta 660
 E n cele champaigne hanta
 U ns ch[evalie]rs preuz et vaillanz
 et si ert biaux et avenanz
 et de m[ou]t sage [con]tenance 664
 S i amoit une dame en france
 E n cele marche de perchois
 p [or] riens qen li meist a chois
 N e lessast il quil ni alast 668
 I l nest ch[evalie]rs sil lamast
 Q [ui]l ne cuidast bien estre rois
 l a biaute le pris del barrois
 a u ior q[ue] plus en pot avoir 672
 e sachiez de fi et de voir
 S ifunoienz avers cestui
 F et li emp[er]eres mes hui
 N avrai ge talent de dormir 676
 c ar pleust or au s[aint] espir
 S i meust couste.v.c.mars
 et q[ue] mes chastiax fust toz ars
 A nq[ue]nuit ainz q[ue] gi ent[ra]sse 680
 p arcovent q[ue] ge en[con]trasse
 u n autretel come cil fu
 S i fust tote lavile en fu
 D iex co[m] fust or sires demi 684
 N iert pas la dame sanz ami
 Q ui si lavoit preu et vaillant.
 P [or] deu Iuglet or di avant
 S ela dame fu si plesanz 688
 E ndroit soi co[m] cil fu vaillanz
 c e fust m[er]velle ce mest vis
 F et Iugles ce que ge devis
 c il fu m[ou]t p[re]uz mes cest noienz 692
 A vers celi de cui comenz
 A descrire com el ert bele
 S a bloie crigne recercele
 E nondoiant aval le vis 696
 A flor de rose aflor delis
 S amble la face de color
 c ar larougeur o la blanchor
 I fu m[ou]t soutilment assise 700

a young knight who came
 from where this happened
 told me about a marvelous thing that occurred. 660
 A noble and valiant knight
 lived in Champagne,
 and he was handsome and appealing
 and had a very wise face. 664
 He loved a lady in France,
 in the marches of Perthes;
 nothing that anyone could offer him
 could keep him from going there. 668
 Any knight, if she loved him,
 would think himself a king.
 The looks and worth of Guillaume des Barres
 at the height of his glory 672
 were nothing in comparison
 with this knight, believe me."
 The emperor said, "I won't feel
 like sleeping any more today! 676
 If it pleased the Holy Spirit,
 I would give five hundred marks
 and see my castle burned to the ground
 tonight before I get there 680
 to be able to meet
 such a man as this one was--
 if the whole city had to burn!
 I would be wholly at his service. 684
 Any lady who had such a noble and valiant man
 would certainly not be without love!
 For God's sake, Jouglet, go on and tell me
 whether his lady was as lovely 688
 for her part as he was valiant:
 it would be a miracle if she were."
 Jouglet said, "The man I'm describing
 was very valorous; but that's nothing 692
 compared to the lady
 whose beauty I'm about to describe.
 Her blond hair curled
 in waves around her face; 696
 in color her face was
 like the rose, like the lily,
 for the red and the white
 were most delicately blended. 700

d	erians ni fu pas entreprise	
N	ature q[ui] la fist tant bele	
Q	en tot le mont iusqa tudele	[f. 72 r 2]
N	e peust len saper trover	704
l	es oils ot beaus por esgarder	
v	airs et clers plus q[ue] nest rubis	
S	orcils bien fez lons et tretiz	
N	on pas ioignanz cest v[er]itez	708
l	es denz de labouche et le nez	
a	voit toz fez par maestire	
N	aprist pas hui si adescire	
Q	ui lembeli entel meniere	712
m	[ou]t par avoit simple la chiere	
b	lanche poitrine blanc le col	
I	lnot sibele iusq[ua] dol	
c	ors ot gent biaux b[ra]z beles mains	716
N	usnepeust estre vilains	
p	[or] quil fust en sa [con]pegnie	
t	ant ert plaine decortoisie	
et	de sens o la g[ra]nt beaute	720
c	e sachiez vos de verite	
Q	uele ert tel co[m] ge la devis	
o	r tien fet il cest mantel gris	
c	ertes quil est bien emploiez	724
I	evoudroie estre el cors plaiez	
M	es q[ue] ge mort ni receusse	
p	[ar] tel covent que ge seusse	
S	en france a mes tele ne tel	728
I	a diex ne me maint alostel	
S	il i a lieu se gel saavoie	
Q	[ue] demain ne fust a la voie	
l	i messages p[or] laler q[ue]rre	732
et	sil voloit avoir net[er]re	
et	bon segnor et bon ami	
t	ost avroit recovre en mi	
D	e la dame ne di ge mie	736
	toz i morrai sanz tele amie	
Q	en mo[n] regne na sa pareille	
F	et iougles vos dites m[er]velle	
Q	[ue] nest nesi p[re]uz ne si bele	740
N	ech[evalie]r ne damoisele	
Q	ausi bele encore ne soit	
et	ausipreuz ou q[ue] ce soit	

Nature was not embarrassed about anything
 in her, for she had made her so beautiful
 that in all the world, as far as Tudela,
 her equal couldn't be found. 704
 Her eyes were beautiful to see,
 more bright and sparkling than gems,
 eyebrows well-shaped, long and elegant,
 set far apart in her face; 708
 the teeth in her mouth and her nose
 were all formed with consummate skill."
 The one who enhanced her beauty thus
 was no novice at description. 712
 "Her face was very modest,
 her bosom white, and white her neck.
 There wasn't a lady so fair as far as Dol; *
 she had a noble body, beautiful arms and hands. 716
 No one could be uncouth
 as long as he was in her company,
 so full of courtesy and wisdom was she,
 along with her great beauty. 720
 You may be very sure that
 she was just as I've described her."
 "Now take this fur cloak,
 for it is certainly well-spent. 724
 I could gladly endure a bodily wound
 (as long as I didn't die of it)
 as long as I could know for certain
 that two such people still existed in France. 728
 May God never allow me into heaven
 if I knew where they lived
 and didn't send a messenger there
 tomorrow to go find them! 732
 If he wanted lands or wealth,
 and a good lord and a good friend,
 he would soon have it all in me.
 I won't say anything about the lady: 736
 I will die without ever having such a love,
 for there isn't her like in my realm."
 Jouglet said, "You're exaggerating,
 for there is no knight so noble 740
 nor maiden so fair
 that there is not somewhere one as fair
 or noble, wherever they might be.

S	i vos di bien q[ue] gen sai une	744
et	q[ue] ge nai done nesune	
b	eaute celi q[ue] ceste nait	
c	e dit bien chas[cun]s qui lavoit	
et	si sai bien com el a non	748
Q	[ue] ses freres est de haut non	[f. 72 v 1]
et	de m[ou]t gregnor pris encore	
Q	[ue] cil dont ge vos disoie ore	
Q	ui si estoit bien entechiez	752
b	iaus amis iouglet or sachiez	
S	e ge de ce puis certains estre	
d	e bone heure vos fist dex nestre	
Q	[ua] toz iors mes vos en ert miex	756
E	insi ioie ge de mes iex	
S	e ge par vos sai le manoir	
et	laterre ouil puet manoir	
c	ilqui tant est et p[re]juz et biaux	760
t	ient il ne cite ne chastiaus	
D	e quel richece puet il estre	
F	et iougles onq[ue]s ne pot pestre	
d	e sa terre.vi.escuiers	764
p	uis quil fu p[ri]mes ch[evalie]rs	
et	sest et agris et a ver	
t	oz tenz et este et iver	
et	a soi tiers de [con]pegnons	768
C	arses g[ra]nz pris et ses renons	
et	ses granz cuers et sa proece	
L	e p[or]voit si bien et adrece	
Q	uil aterre et avoir assez	772
m	[ou]t a dex enlui amassez	
t	oz ses g[ra]nz biens fet lemp[er]ere	
m	[ou]t puet estre lie la mere	
Q	[ui] porta fiz de si haut cuer	776
b	ien me devroit on get[er] puer	
S	e ge nelai a [con]pegnon	
o	r me di coment il a non.	
G	uillame de dole lapelent	780
	tuit cil qui el pais reperent	
N	on pas por ce quele soit soe	
d	i moi dont por quoi sen avoue	
Q	uil enmaint pres aun plessie	784
S	apar dole plus essaucie	
S	onsornon q[ue] par une vile	

I assure you, I know of one such lady, 744
 and I have attributed no beauty to the other
 that this one doesn't have,
 as everyone declares who sees her.
 Moreover I know her name well, 748
 for her brother is of noble birth
 and of even greater worth
 than the knight I was just telling you about
 who was so very accomplished." 752
 "Fair friend Jouglet, believe me,
 if I could be certain of this,
 then God blessed the hour of your birth;
 for, as I value my own eyes, 756
 you will always be better off for it
 if you can tell me
 where he might live,
 who is so very noble and fair. 760
 Does he hold a town or a castle?
 What kind of wealth might he have?"
 Jouglet said, "He's never been able
 to feed six squires off his own land, 764
 as long as he's been a knight;
 and yet he wears squirrel and miniver
 in all seasons, both summer and winter,
 and so do his two companions; 768
 for his great worth and reputation
 and his great heart and his prowess
 provide for him so well
 that he has lands and wealth enough." 772
 "God has concentrated all His gifts
 in him," said the emperor.
 "The mother who bore a son
 with such a noble heart may well rejoice. 776
 I would certainly deserve contempt
 if I did not have him as a companion.
 Now tell me what his name is."
 "Guillaume de Dole they all call him 780
 who live in that country,
 but not because Dole is his."
 "Then tell me why he uses that name."
 "He lives nearby, in a manor; 784
 Dole distinguishes his surname
 more than the name of a village;

c	e vient plus de sens q[ue] de guile	
F	et lemp[er]eres ce fet mon	788
et	sa suer coment a anon	
Q	ui siabel et gent le cors	
S	ire el a non lienors	
c	e dit li nons de la pucele	792
A	mors la cuit dune estencele	
D	e cel biau non m[ou]t p[re]s del cuer	
o	r li seront sachiez dun fuer	[f. 72 v 2]
t	otesles autres por cesti	796
b	eneoiz soit qui cest no[n] basti	
et	li p[re]stres qui fu parrins	
I	l fust arcevesques de rains	
S	e ie fusse sires de france	800
o	r ni a fors de laliance	
F	ere erroment entre vos.ii.	
F	et Iougles si te [con]saut dieus	
o	rme rembeliz la pucele	804
C	il sap[er]coit m[ou]t bien que cele	
L	i plesoit ia par oir dire	
et	ausamblant que il remire	
L	i est avis quil laime ia	808
I	uglet fet il ne me di ia	
N	e plus ne mains q[ue] tu en sez	
E	nla moitie a el assez	
D	e sabeaute p[or] estre dame	812
o	udun empire ou dun roiaume	
S	emen as la verite dite	
l	ors li a cil m[ou]t bien descrite	
l	agentil pucele honoree	816
h	a!dex co[m] buer fu onq[ue]s nee	
et	cil plus cui ele amera	
S	empres covient savoir quira	
Q	[ue]rre son frere le matin	820
A	cui ge me doig et destin	
p	[or] servir de cuer et de cors	
E	n riant li dit ioglez lors	
Q	[ui] ert sages et apensez	824
d	el cors veoir avra assez	
Q	uil nest mie si covoitous	
et	lienors asblons chevouls	
a	vra le cuer se men creez.	828
F	et il en riant gars provez	

he does it out of good sense, not cunning."
 The emperor said, "That's true. 788
 And what is the name of his sister,
 who is so beautiful and noble?"
 "Sire, she is called Lienor,
 that is the maiden's name." 792
 Love struck a spark in his heart
 with this beautiful name;
 from then on, I assure you, all other women
 would be alike next to this one. 796
 "Blessed be the one who made this name,
 and the parish priest who christened her!
 If I were the king of France
 I'd make him the archbishop of Reims." 800
 "Now it remains only to make an alliance
 quickly between the two of you,"
 laughed Jouglet. "So help you God,
 now describe the maiden's beauty for me." 804
 The other saw clearly that the girl
 pleased him already by hearsay,
 and from the look of him
 he loved her already, it seemed to Jouglet. 808
 "Jouglet," he said, "tell me now
 what you know about her, neither more nor less.
 Just half her beauty
 would suffice for a queen 812
 of an empire or a kingdom,
 if what you say is true."
 Then Jouglet thoroughly described
 the noble, honored girl. 816
 "God, how lucky that she was ever born,
 and luckier still the man she will love!
 I must send someone at once
 to summon her brother in the morning, 820
 to whom I give and promise myself
 to serve with heart and body."
 Laughing, the wise and thoughtful
 Jouglet told him, "Truly, 824
 the body will be enough for him,
 for he's not at all so greedy;
 and Lienor the golden-haired
 will have the heart, believe me." 828
 Conrad answered, laughing, "You idiot,

c om ez ore de mal apens
 o rcuides tu voir q[ue] ge pens
 m ains au frere qa la seror 832
 E n mon roiaume nen monor
 N afferroit pas qel fust mamie
 m es por ce quel ni porroit mie
 a venir i voel ge penser 836
 o r nos afet soef passer
 l a iornee soe merci
 I e lairai n[ost]re [con]te ici
 et vossavez bien ou geles 840
 I l est bien tens datendrehuimes [f. 73 r 1]
 N [ost]re route et noz [con]pegnons
 F et il tudiz voir or poignons
 et sichante ceste chancon 844
 E n lonor mo[n]seignor gascon
 Q uant flors et glais et verdure sesloigne
 Q[ue] cil oisel nosen.t.i.mot soner
 p [or] lafroidor chas[cun]s crient et resoigne
 t res qau biau tens quil soloient chant[er]
 et p[or] ce chant q[ue] nel puis oublier
 l a bon amor dont dex ioie me doigne
 c arde li sont et viennent mi penser---
 A incois quil laient dite toute
 E stoit ial plus de laroute
 E l chastel et li ostel pris
 l emp[er]eres qui ot le pris 856
 E ntorlui de chevalerie
 E rroment o g[ra]nt [con]pegnie
 E stentrez el chastel apres
 p ar une porte decipres 860
 A u palesvienent si descendent
 L i seneschal les i atendent
 l eve ap[re]stent napes sont mises
 N i ont pas fet g[ra]nz ademises 864
 a inz en fist on lues q[ua]nqen dut
 c ouch[er] se vet q[ua]nt il li lut
 et sag[ra]nt gent fu dep[ar]tie
 p [ar] iouglet cui il ot p[ar]tie 868
 S arobe as chans fist apel[er]
 .I. clerc si li fist apporter
 E ncre p[ar]chemin et lafere
 Q [ue] il covient a letres fere 872

what you're thinking is unworthy.
 Do you really believe that I am thinking
 less of the brother than of the sister? 832
 It would not befit my kingdom or my rank
 for her to be my beloved.
 But since it could never happen,
 I can at least think about it. 836
 She has made the day pass
 pleasantly for us, after all."
 "I'll leave off our story here,
 and you know where I've stopped. 840
 It's time now we rejoined
 our road and our companions."
 Conrad answered, "You're right, let's hurry."
 And he sang this song 844
 in honor of my lord Gace:
 When flowers and gladiola and greenery depart,
 and the birds don't dare make a sound,
 because of the cold, each is in fear and dread 848
 until the fair weather, when they usually sing.
 And yet I sing--for I cannot forget it--
 of the good love, may God give me joy of it,
 for of her are all my thoughts, and from her come. 852
 Before they had sung it all
 most of the group had already reached
 the castle, and had taken lodging.
 Soon afterwards the emperor, 856
 the flower of chivalry around him,
 quickly entered the castle
 with his great company.
 Through a gate of cypress-wood 860
 they entered the palace and dismounted.
 The seneschals were waiting for them;
 they brought water and spread the tablecloths.
 They wasted no time with ceremony, 864
 but did quickly what they were supposed to do.
 Conrad went to bed as soon as possible,
 when his many companions had left.
 He had Jouglet, to whom he had given 868
 his cloak for the tale, call
 for a clerk, and he had ink
 and parchment brought, and everything
 necessary to write a letter. 872

t uit troi vont en la garderobe
 I ouglez de sa cotele robe
 d ont il avoit ia le mantel
 Q [ue] que li clers fist bien et bel 876
 l es letres teles adevise
 c om lemp[er]eres li devise
 p uis les fist en orsaeler
 A pres fist.i.vallet mander 880
 Q ui est venuz sot non nicole.
 m on segnor Guill[ame] de dole
 F et il me port[er]as cest brief.
 C e ne sai ge sil li fu grief 884
 m es ildit sire volentiers
 S ez tu fet il q[ue] dit li bries
 Q [ue] ieli mant et sili pri [f. 73 r 2]
 l ues quil av[ra] cest brief oi 888
 Q [ui]l monte et viegne a moi luesdroit
 p ar cele foi q[ue] il me doit
 et sil est atornoi naguerre
 p [or] to[n] roncin meng[ier] au q[ue]rre 892
 N e fines si laies trove
 et le brief dep[ar] moi mostre
 o rpense bien de la besoigne
 I l a [con]mande qen li doigne 896
 .ii.marz desterlins por despendre
 o u plusencor sil en veut prendre
 p uis li dist quil se voist couchier
 et liet matin pour chevauchier 900
 A u roisant si fera que sages
 C il estoit de fere messages
 A ssez plus duiz que bues darer
 A u matin lieve por errer 904
 S i se vest et heuse et atorne
 E l roncin monte si sen torne
 et se seigne a lissir de luis
 I e ne demandai onq[ue]s puis 908
 o u il iut la premiere nuit
 m es m[ou]t li greva voir ce cuit
 C e quil aloit seuls auplessie
 L emp[er]eres quil a lessie 912
 G isant dela ou il torna
 A u matin q[ua]nt il se leva
 S i fist ovrir une fenestre

All three went into his dressing-room;
 Jouglet relieved Conrad of the tunic
 which matched the cloak he'd already received,
 while the clerk wrote the letters 876
 well and beautifully, just as
 the emperor instructed him;
 then he had the letter sealed with gold.
 Conrad then sent for a young man 880
 named Nicholas, who arrived.
 The emperor said, "You will take this letter
 for me to my lord Guillaume de Dole."
 He may have been unhappy about it, 884
 but he said, "Gladly, sire."
 "Do you know," asked Conrad, "what the letter says?
 It says that I summon and ask him,
 as soon as he has heard this letter, 888
 to mount up and come to me at once,
 by the faith that he owes me;
 and if he is at a tournament or at war,
 don't stop looking for him until 892
 you've found him and shown him my letter,
 even if you have to eat your horse.
 Now set your mind to this business."
 He ordered that Nicholas be given 896
 two silver marks to spend,
 or even more if he wanted to take it.
 Then he told him to go to bed
 and to get up early in the morning to ride 900
 while it was cool, which would be wise.
 Nicholas was better at carrying messages
 than an ox is at ploughing.
 He got up in the morning to travel, 904
 and put on clothing and boots, and got ready;
 he mounted his horse, and looked back
 and crossed himself as he went out the gate.
 I never bothered to ask 908
 where he slept the first night--
 I don't think he was very happy
 to be traveling alone to the manor.
 The emperor, whom Nicholas left 912
 asleep in the castle he left from,
 in the morning when he arose
 had a window opened.

L	isoleils plus clers q[ue] puet estre	916
G	eta ses biaux rais par sonlit	
D	e sebelin et de samit	
o	t covertoir a roses dor	
p	[or] lamor bele lienor	920
d	ont il avoit el cuer le no[n]	
A	[con]mencie ceste chancon	
L	i noviaus tens et mais et roissignox me semont de chanter.et mes fins cuers me fet dune amorete.undoz present que ge nos refuser.or mendoit dex en tel honor monter.cele ou iai mis mon cuer et mon penser.qentre mes bras la tenisse nuete. ainz qalasse outremer.-----	
E	insi se [con]forte en chantant et cil qui chevauchoit errant	932
V	[er]s dole tot le g[ra]nt chemin	
S	efuttant levez p[ar] matin	[f. 73 v 1]
p	uis quil vit quil lestut afere	
Q	enmains duit iors vint aurepere	936
m	on segnor Guill[ame] de dole	
R	enomee qui partot vole	
l	a mene tot droit au plessie	
G	rant trot no[n] pas le col bessie	940
E	ntre en la vile p[ar] la porte	
o	tot le seel dor qui porte	
I	l nestoit pas toz a ap[re]ndre	
I	l ala ainz son ostel p[re]ndre	944
Q	uil entendist a autre rien	
et	q[ua]nt il fu herb[er]giez bien	
et	ses roncins bien aesiez	
et	il des heuses deschauciez	948
c	hauciez sest dautre chaucement	
U	n chapelde flors et de mente	
L	i dona lafille son oste	
p	uis p[re]nt la boiste si en oste	952
l	es lettres et vet alacort	
a	un garcon a pie qui cort	
Q	[ui] un trop beau levrier enmaine	
D	emande q[ue]l vie en i maine	956
I	l dit que leni veut mengier	
I	e peusse ia trop targier	
F	etil lors droit a soi meismes	

The sun, as bright as could be, 916
 threw its fair rays over his bed;
 of sable and samite
 was its coverlet, with golden roses.
 For love of fair Lienor, 920
 whose name he had in his heart,
 he began this song:

The new season and May and the nightingale
 urge me to sing, and my noble heart
 makes me a gift of a love-affair which I *
 dare not refuse. May God now let me so rise
 in honor that I may once hold her naked in my arms,
 the one in whom I have put my heart and mind,
 before I cross the sea.

Thus he comforted himself in singing,
 while the one who rode quickly 932
 toward Dole on the high road
 had gotten off so early,
 since he saw that he had to,
 that in less than eight days he reached the house 936
 of my lord Guillaume de Dole.

Fame, which flies everywhere,
 led him straight to the manor.

At a good pace, not hanging his head, 940
 he entered the village by the gate,
 with the golden seal he was carrying.

He wasn't completely inexperienced;
 he went to find a lodging before 944
 undertaking anything else.

And when he had settled in
 and his horse was cared for,
 he himself had removed his boots 948
 and put on other shoes.

His host's daughter brought him
 a garland of flowers and mint.
 Then he took his box, removed the letter 952
 and went to the manor.

He asked a boy on foot, who was running
 and leading a beautiful greyhound,
 what was going on at the manor; 956
 the boy said that they were about to eat.
 "I might be too late,"

Nicholas said to himself;

m	[ou]t sapertist et mout sacesme.	960
Q	ue quil monte en la sale amont	
	li sire ertlues de rougemont	
V	enuz dun g[ra]nt tornoiement	
S	avait ch[evalie]rs et m[ou]t gent	964
p	[ar] cele sale a g[ra]nt plente	
I	l a un vallet acoste	
S	i liadit quil li moustrast	
S	onseignor avant quil meniait	968
C	il li moustre m[ou]t bien au doit	
I	i vaslez en vet la tot droit	
p	[or] ce qon nel tenist a fol	
o	stale mantel deson col	972
Q	uil nest pas droiz quil i remaigne	
L	i emp[er]eres dalemaigne	
d	e par cui ciz briez est venuz	
v	os mande sire mil saluz	976
c	ome cil qui vos aime et prise	
s	achiez q[ue] g[ra]nt faim li est prise	
D	evos veoir prochainement	
I	lli respont m[ou]t sagement	[f. 73 v 2] 980
F	rere dit il lemp[er]eor	
d	oint diex g[ra]nt ioie et g[ra]nt honor	
a	utant co[m] mes cuers en desire	
et	p[or] deu q[ue] fetil mis sire	984
m	[ou]t a g[ra]nt tens q[ue] ge nel vi	
G	el lessai tot sain deu merci	
c	ertes fet il ce mest m[ou]t bel	
m	[ou]t resgard[er]ent le seel	988
et	li ch[evalie]r et les genz	
m	[ou]t enavoit de tex laienz	
Q	ui onq[ue]s mes ne virent tel	
F	et il alez a son ostel	992
G	ardez quil soit bien h[er]b[er]giez	
A	inz q[ue] li seauls soit brisiez	
I	lvet ala chambre sa mere	
v	ez dame dit il lemp[er]ere	996
m	a envoie cest seel dor	
m	es ge ne sai quil a encor	
d	edenz.mes ge le savrai ia	
d	un sien coutel le revercha	1000
S	ien trest le parchemin fors	
s	asuer lablee lienors	

so he tidied and readied himself 960
 as he hurried into the great hall.
 The lord had just then returned
 from a great tournament at Rougemont,
 and knights and other people 964
 filled the hall in great numbers.
 Nicholas accosted a squire,
 and asked him to point out
 his lord before he began to eat. 968
 The boy indicated which one it was.
 Nicholas went right up to him;
 so that no one would consider him ignorant
 he removed his cloak from his shoulders, 972
 for it was not polite to leave it on.
 "The emperor of Germany,
 from whom this letter comes,
 sends you a thousand greetings, sir, 976
 as one who loves and values you.
 You should know that he is very eager
 to see you, very soon."
 Guillaume answered very politely: 980
 "Brother," he says, "may God grant
 as much joy and honor to the emperor
 as my heart wishes him.
 By God, how does my lord? 984
 It's been a long time since I've seen him."
 "I left him quite well, thank God."
 "Truly, I'm glad of that," said Guillaume.
 Both the knight and his company 988
 looked closely at the seal;
 there were many in the hall
 who had never seen anything like it.
 Guillaume told a servant, "Go to his lodging, 992
 and see that he is well put up."
 Before the seal was broken
 he went into his mother's chamber:
 "See, lady," he said, "the emperor 996
 has sent me this golden seal;
 I do not know yet what is
 inside, but I soon shall."
 He removed it with a knife, 1000
 and took out the parchment.
 His sister, beautiful Lienor,

E	n ot lor p[or].i.soen fermail	
Q	[an]nt ele vit le bel cheval	1004
	et un roitot armedeseure	
H	a!dame sedex me sekeure	
F	et ele ordoi m[ou]t estre lie	
Q	[ua]nt iai.i.roi de ma mesnie	1008
M	is sire Guill[ame] sen rit	
S	edeu plect et saint esperit	
C	est tote honor qui vos vendra	
F	et la mere ia ni faudra	1012
L	icuers le ma toz iors bien dit	
U	ns siens ch[evalie]rs qui porvit	
L	aletre si li a leue	
L	i emp[er]eres vos salue	1016
A	pres si vos mande et prie	
L	ues qavrez ceste letre oie	
Q	[ue] ia ni q[ue]rez nule aloigne	
P	[or] aloigne ne por besoigne	1020
Q	[ue] vos nailliez alui luesdroit	
Q	[ui]l niert mes liez jusquil vosvoit	
F	ilz vos irez ce dit lamere	
	G[ra]nt honor vos fet lemp[er]ere	1024
Q	[ua]ntil si belement vos mande	
D	ame ainz irons a laviande	[f. 74 r 1]
	et puis ap[re]s si ferons el	
L	endone leve par lostel	1028
S	i assieent li ch[evalie]r	
C	il qui tot set sanz ensegnier	
Q	[ua]nquil apartint a honor	
P	[ri]st le vallet lempereor	1032
Q	[ui] m[ou]t estoit de bone part	
S	i se vont seoir dune part	
D	e latable a.i.des corons	
C	har orent assez et poissons	1036
A	celmeng[ier] a grant plente	
B	iaus amis or avez este	
F	etil maintes foiz miex serviz	
M	[ou]t mengissiez or aenviz	1040
C	este viande a vavassor	
E	n la maison lemp[er]eor	
S	ire dit il ce nest pas doute	
M	es venoison qui flere toute	1044
D	e senglers de cers sanz seson	

kept the gold from it to use as a brooch.
 When she saw the handsome horse 1004
 and the armed king astride it,
 she said, "Oh! lady mother, so help me God,
 I should certainly be happy
 now that I have a king in my household." 1008
 My lord Guillaume laughed at that.
 "If it please God and the Holy Spirit,"
 said their mother, "the letter brings you
 only honor, without a doubt; 1012
 my heart has always told me so."
 One of his knights who had skimmed
 the letter read it aloud to them:
 "The emperor greets you; 1016
 next, he asks and prays you
 not to let any excuse,
 delay, or urgent business
 prevent you from going to him at once, 1020
 as soon as you've heard this letter,
 for he will never be happy until he sees you."
 "Son, you will go," said his mother.
 "The emperor does you great honor 1024
 in summoning you so courteously."
 "Lady, first we shall go to eat,
 and afterwards we will take care of it."
 They were given water to wash, 1028
 and then the knights sat down.
 Guillaume, who knew without being taught
 everything pertaining to courtesy,
 took the emperor's messenger 1032
 (who was also very well-bred),
 and they went to sit together
 at one of the corners of the table.
 They had meat and fish 1036
 in plenty at that meal.
 "Fair friend," said Guillaume, "surely
 you've often been better served.
 You would probably never want 1040
 to eat such poor knight's fare
 at the emperor's table."
 "Lord," answered Nicholas, "that's for certain--
 but venison which smells quite 1044
 like boar, deer killed out of season--

D	e ce avons a grant foison	
et	de pasteز vieز et moussiz	
Q	[ua]ntil ne sont preux as souriz	1048
L	ors sontil bon as escuiers	
D	ex fet il a ses ch[evalie]rs	
O	r cuidoiه que chacissons	
et	q[ue] nos nos seiornissons	1052
.viii.	iors toز plains sanz remouvoir	
O	r me restuet par estovoir	
T	ot maintenant aharneschier	
S	i co[m] por demain chevauchier	1056
O	u avoir male volente	
A	court.vos dites verite	
F	et li vallez ce nest pas fable	
M	es fetes oster ceste table	1060
S	iatornons si cest afere	
Q	[ui]l ni ait ainq[ue]nuit quefere	
Q	[ui]l covendra matin movoir	
F	rere fetilvos dites voir	1064
L	ors sest levez et tuit li autre	
	et li vallez triez.i.triez autre	
Q	[ui] ot este en autre yver	
A	la veoir son roncın ver	1068
S	avoir sil avoit q[ue] mengier.	
A	samere qui mout lot chier	
R	evet en sa chambre parl[er]	
I	l li comence ademander	[f. 74 r 2] 1072
Q	el gent il menra ovoec lui	
D	ame fet il gent sanz anui	
S	i sont m[ou]t bon en cest voiage	
I	e ni menrai ia q[ue] ie sache	1076
O	voec moi q[ue].ii.[con]pegnons	
S	i li noma cıaus p[ar] lor nons	
D	e cui cuidoit avoir honor	
E	nla meson lemp[er]jeor	1080
Q	[ui] erent preu et bien p[ar]lant	
N	enierent mie si enfant	
Q	ue chascuns nait.xxx.anz passeز	
B	ıax fıls dit ele or en pensez	1084
G	ardeز q[ue] riens ne vos souffraigne	
Q	[ue]len ne die en alemaigne	
Q	[ua]nt vos serez a cort venuz	
Q	[ue] vos soiez povres nenuz	1088

that we have in great abundance,
 and moldy old pasties:
 when they aren't good enough for the mice, 1048
 then they're good enough for the squires!"
 "God!" exclaimed Guillaume to his knights,
 "I had thought we would stay put
 here for a full week 1052
 to do some hunting.
 Now I find myself
 obliged to get everything ready
 to ride out tomorrow, 1056
 or create ill will
 at court." "You speak the truth,"
 said Nicholas, "you're quite right.
 But have this table cleared away, 1060
 and let us get everything ready;
 we only have tonight to do it,
 since we will have to leave tomorrow."
 "Brother," said Guillaume, "you speak truly." 1064
 Then he got up, and the others as well;
 and quick as a wink Nicholas,
 who'd been around a while,
 went to see his piebald horse, 1068
 to make sure he had been fed.
 Guillaume went back to speak to his mother,
 who loved him dearly.
 She began to ask him 1072
 whom he would take with him.
 "Lady," he said, "pleasant people
 are best for long journeys;
 I think that I'll take only 1076
 two companions with me."
 He mentioned by name the two
 he thought would do him the most credit
 in the hall of the emperor, 1080
 for they were valorous and well-spoken,
 and they were both
 at least thirty years old.
 "Fair son," she said, "now consider, 1084
 make sure you have everything you need,
 so that when you get to court
 no one in Germany will say
 that you are poor or ill-clothed." 1088

F et sa suer bele lienors
 v ez la.iii.pere p[or] son cors
 D erobe fresche a cele perche
 l e cheval le [con]te de perche 1092
 F ace trere lez son escu
 C ilqui maint estor ot veincu
 F ist apeler ses [con]pegnons
 m oi et madame disions 1096
 Q [ue] vos vendrez o moi amdui
 S ipensez datorn[er] mes hui
 et vos armes et voz hernois
 N os avomes biaux escuz froiz 1100
 S eles et lorains envoisiez
 V os ne verrez si atiriez
 .iii.ch[evalie]rs devant.i.mois
 l i serjans quine fu pas mois 1104
 F uen la sale revenuz
 M issire Guill[ame] est issuz
 d ela chambre et si [con]pegnon
 l i vallez vint enla meson 1108
 t oz seuls ala riant v[er]s lui
 m auves solaz vos ai fet hui
 F et il mes ca este p[ar]vos
 m es tant ai exploitie q[ue] nos 1112
 m ouvrons le matin auserain
 v enez en fet il main a main
 S ivos moustrerai mo[n] tresor
 S amere et bele lienor 1116
 l emaine enla chambre veoir
 o rsachiez defi et devoir [f. 74 v 1]
 Q [ue] il en a mout fet porlui
 Q [ue] iames nent[re]ra puis hui 1120
 E nchambre a dame na pucele
 o uil voie nule sibele
 I lla salue et ele lui
 P uis si sassient ambedui 1124
 et cele sassist delez euls
 Q [ui] m[ou]t avoit blons les cheveux
 et sert m[ou]t simple et petit cointe
 d esor une g[ra]nt coute pointe 1128
 o uvroit samere en une estole
 v ez fet il biaux amis nicole
 Q uel ovriere ila en madame

His beautiful sister Lienor said,
 "See, on that rack there are three sets
 of new clothes for him to wear.
 Have the Count of Perche's horse 1092
 carry it, along with his shield."
 The knight, who had won many a battle,
 had his companions summoned:
 "My lady and I were just saying 1096
 that you would both accompany me.
 See that you prepare your arms
 and your harness at once."
 "We have fair new shields, 1100
 decorated saddles and gear.
 You will not see three such
 elegant knights in an entire month!"
 Nicholas, who was no fool, 1104
 returned to the hall.
 My lord Guillaume came out
 of the chamber with his companions.
 The boy came into the house; 1108
 Guillaume laughing went up to him alone:
 "Small cheer did I give you today,"
 he said, "but it's your own doing.
 Now I have managed everything 1112
 so that we leave tomorrow early.
 Come now," he said, taking his arm,
 "and I will show you my treasure."
 He led Nicholas to the chamber to see 1116
 his mother and fair Lienor.
 Now you may be very sure
 that he did him a great favor,
 for Nicholas would never again enter 1120
 the chamber of a lady or a maiden
 where he would see any so beautiful.
 He greeted her, and she him,
 and they both sat down; 1124
 Lienor was seated next to them,
 her hair a pale blond
 and her manner simple, far from haughty.
 On a great embroidered cushion 1128
 his mother was working on a vestment:
 "See," said Guillaume, "fair friend Nicholas,
 what a needlewoman my mother is.

- c est une m[er]vellouse fame 1132
 et set assez de cest mestier
 F anons garnemenz de moustier
 c hasubles beles aubes parees
 o nt amdeus maintes foiz ouvrees 1136
 F rere cest aumosne et deduis
 S es met aspovres moustiers vuis
 d egarnemenz et derichece
 Q [ue] dex me doint ioie et leece 1140
 et demoï et de mes enfanz
 c eli sui ge toz iors proianz
 F et cil ci a bone oroison
 d ame fet il une chancon 1144
 c ar nos dites si ferez bien
 e le chantoit sor tote rien
 et silefesoit volentiers
 b iaus filz ce fu ca enarriers 1148
 Q [ue] les dames et les roines
 S oloient fere lor cortines
 et chant[er] les chancons distoire
 H a!ma tres douce dame voire 1152
 d ites nos en se vos volez
 P [ar] cele foi q[ue] me devez
 b iaufilz m[ou]t mavez [con]juree
 I a ceste foiz niert pariuree 1156
 t ant co[m] ge le puisse amender
 L ors [con]menca seri et cler.
 F ille et lamere se sieent alorfrois a un fil
 dor i font orieuls croiz.parla lamere qui
 le cuer ot cortois.tant bele amor fist aude
 en doon.Ap[re]nez fille a coudre et afiler.et en
 lorfrois les oriex crois lever.lamor doon vos
 covient oublier.tant bon amor fist [f. 74 v 2]
 bele aude en doon.-----
 Q uant elot sachancon chantee
 c ertes m[ou]t sest bien aquitee 1168
 F et cil ma dame vostre mere
 c [er]tes nicole biau doz frere
 b ien seroit lachose atiree
 S e ma suer sestoit aquitee 1172
 E le sen sosrit belement
 et si set bien certainement
 Q [uel]nen puet en nule maniere

She is an extraordinary woman, 1132
 and knows a lot about this work.
 The two of them have often made
 hangings, church ornaments,
 chasubles, fair ornate albs. 1136
 Brother, it's both charity for them and a pleasure;
 they give them to poor churches
 where there are no ornaments or riches."
 "I pray to God daily 1140
 for joy and happiness for my children
 and for me," said their mother.
 Nicholas said, "There is a good prayer."
 "Lady," Guillaume said, "do sing us 1144
 a song; that would be kind."
 She dearly loved to sing,
 and usually did it gladly:
 "Fair son, it was long ago 1148
 that ladies and queens
 used to make their hangings
 and sing *chansons d'histoire*!"
 "Oh, my dear sweet lady, 1152
 sing us one, if you would,
 by the faith you owe me."
 "Fair son, since you insist,
 you will not go without any pleasure 1156
 which I can give you."
 Then she began pure and clear:
 Daughter and mother are sitting at the orphrey,
 with a thread of gold they make golden crosses on it.
 The mother spoke, whose heart was courtly.
 So much good love did fair Aude have for Doon!
 "Daughter, learn to sew and spin, and raise gold crosses
 on the orphrey. You must forget the love of Doon."
 So much good love did fair Aude have for Doon!
 When she had sung this song,
 Nicholas said, "Your lady mother 1168
 certainly acquitted herself well."
 "Yes indeed, fair sweet brother,
 and it would be all the better
 if my sister would sing too." 1172
 She smiled beautifully,
 knowing without a doubt
 that she would not be able to escape

E	schaper se por la proiere	1176
E	n veut riens fere di son frere	
m	a bele fille fet la mere	
I	lvos estuet feste et honor	
F	ere au vallet lemp[er]eor	1180
m	a dame bon voeil le ferons	
l	ors [con]menca ceste chancon.	
S	iet soi bele aye as piez samale mai/ stre.sor ses genouls un paile dengle terre.a un fil i fet coustures beles.he! he!amors dautre pais.mo[n] cuer avez et lie et souspris.---Aval la face li courent chaudes lermes.Qel est batue et au main et au vespre.por ce quel ai mesoudoier dautre terre.he!amor dautre pais.mon cuer avez et lie et	
Q	[ua]nt el ot chante haut et bien ¶ souspris	
o	rne me demandez plus rien	
N	on ferai ge mabele suer	
S	ela franchise de vo cuer	1196
N	e vos enfet dire par grace	
I	a ne voudrez q[ue] ie nen face	
p	[ar] cest covent dirai encore	
F	etcele qui latrece ot sore	1200
et	blonde sor le blanc bliaut	
l	ors [con]menca seri et haut	
L	a bele doe siet au vent. Souz laubespine guion atent	
p	laint et regrete tant forment	
p	[or] son ami qui si vient lent	
D	iex quel vassal a en doon	
D	iex quel vassal dex q[ue]l baron	
I	a namerai se doon non---	
C	omez chargiez co[m] ez floriz	
a	toi memist plet mes amis	
m	esil nevent a moi venir	
D	ex quel vassal a endoon	[f. 75 r 1]
D	ex q[ue]l vassal dex quel baron	
I	a namerai se doon non-----	
Q	[ua]nt el ot ceste parfenie	1217
o	r seroit ce sanz cortoise	
F	etele qui plus me q[ue]rroit	
D	it li vallezvos avez droit	1220

with any excuse, if her brother entreated her 1176
to do something for him.

"My beautiful daughter," said their mother,
"you must honor and entertain
the emperor's messenger." 1180
"My lady, we'll gladly do so."

Then she began this song:

Fair Aye sits at the feet of her cruel governess,
an English silk brocade on her knees,
and with a thread she makes fair stitches therein.
Oh! Oh! love from another country, you have both bound
and captured my heart. Down her face run hot tears,
for she is beaten morning and night
for loving a paid soldier from another land.
Oh! Oh! love from another country,
you have both bound and captured my heart.

When she had sung high and well, 1193
she said, "Now ask me nothing more."

"I will not, my sweet sister,
if your heart's own courtesy 1196
does not make you sing for us freely."

"You obviously want me to,
so I will sing again,"
said Lienor, whose hair was fair 1200
and blond on her white bliaut.

Then she began, pure and high:

Fair Doe sits in the wind,
waiting for Guion beneath the hawthorn.
She complains and laments so,
on account of her love who is so slow in coming:
"God, what a knight Doon is!
God, what a knight! God, what a lord!
I shall never love anyone but Doon."

"How laden you are, how full of flowers!

My love told me to meet him beside you,
but he does not want to come to me.

God, what a knight Doon is!
God, what a knight! God, what a lord!
I shall never love anyone but Doon."

When she had finished this one 1217
she said, "Now it would be discourteous
to insist any further."

"You are right," said the boy 1220

Q [ui] estoit a lempereor
 o ravez legre et lamor
 et la querele et voz amis
 l eremanant delior ont pris 1224
 E n deduiant iusqau souper
 A inz q[ue]cil qui not point de per
 S en alast en la sale arriere
 l a mere prist une aumosniere 1228
 et la suer.i.fermail trop bel
 Q el a done au damoisel
 et por son frere et p[or] sonor
 et p[or] lamor lemp[er]eor 1232
 I llor enrent.v.c.merciz
 et dit que bien li est meriz
 C iz biaux p[re]senz sil auques vit.
 et sepense cainc mes ne vit 1236
 S i bons enfanz netele mere
 S ile savra li emperere
 I l prent [con]gie a bele chiere
 S i sen vont enla sale arriere 1240
 o uli soupers ert atornez
 m [ou]t biaux devianades assez
 F laons de let porciax farsiz
 D ontli ostex ert bien garniz 1244
 et bons conins poulez lardez
 D e ce estoit granz laplentez
 et poires et fromages viez
 N os navomes autres daintiez 1248
 F rere fet il ce poise moi
 V os genz dela meson leroi
 N e [con]noissiez cez mes de vile
 F ont li [con]pegnon il vos guile 1252
 F et li vallez nen v[er]rez el
 S i me honist enson ostel
 E insi se ioent et envoient
 de biaux moz le souper aoisent 1256
 d e chevalerie et damors
 Q [ui] est entechiez de tex mors
 N e puet aproece faillir [f. 75 r 2]
 L i seneschal firent coellir 1260
 L es napes q[ua]nt il le covint
 et vallet saillent plus de .xx.
 Q [ui] abacins qui a touaille

who came from the emperor.

"Now you have won my thanks, my favor,
the argument, and your family's praise."

*

They spent the rest of the day
entertaining themselves until dinner.

1224

Before the matchless Guillaume
went back to the hall,

his mother took an alms-purse

1228

and his sister a handsome clasp

which she gave to the young man

for her brother's honor and for hers,

and for the love of the emperor.

1232

Nicholas thanked them both five hundred times,

and said that he hoped

to reciprocate these fair gifts;

privately he thought that he had never seen

1236

such good children or such a mother,

and resolved that the emperor should know of it.

He took his leave with good grace,

and went back into the hall

1240

where a meal was laid out,

a good one, with many dishes:

milk pudding, stuffed suckling pig

(with which the household was well provided),

1244

good rabbits, and larded chicken

(these in great plenty),

and pears and aged cheeses.

"We have no other delicacies,

1248

brother," said Guillaume, "I am sorry.

Coming from the house of the king,

you won't even recognize these village foods."

His companions said, "He's teasing you."

1252

The boy said, "You won't see anything else,

on my honor, at his table!"

Thus they joked and amused themselves;

they sweetened the meal with fair words

1256

of chivalry and love.

He who is endowed with such qualities

as Guillaume's cannot fail in prowess.

The seneschals had the tablecloths

1260

removed at the proper time,

and more than twenty boys arrived,

some with basins, some with towels.

L	i escuier et la pietaille	1264
V	uident la sale et les mesons	
I	l parole a ses [con]pegnons	
A	ciax qui doivent remanoir	
D	ededuiz de chevax davoit	1268
F	ist a chas[cun] savolente	
S	iont lues lor oirre ap[re]ste	
A	incois quil alassent couch[ier]	
Q	uil ni ot fors dou chevauch[ier]	1272
A	u matin q[ua]nt il seleverent	
o	r sachiez q[ue] q[ua]nt il monterent	
I	l i ot plore maintes lermes	
.iii.	somiers a robes et darmes	1276
o	rent et g[ra]nz chevax de pris	
M	out abelement [con]gie pris	
A	saseror et a sa mere	
A	deu biau filz adeu biau frere	1280
A	deu tuit q[ua]nt il sen tornerent	
o	rsachiez q[ue] tuit en plorerent	
L	iremegnant por eles deus	
o	r sent vont or les [con]saut deus	1284
O	rchevauchedelez nicole	
	Li gentils Guill[ame] de dole	
S	ist delavile entor plessiee	
C	e sachiez m[ou]t ia lessiee	1288
S	amere et sa seror dolente	
Q	ui plus estoit droite dune ente	
et	plus fresche que nule rose	
Q	uele nedort ne ne repose	1292
E	nune vile qune nuit	
N	epor solaz ne pordeduit	
M	[ou]t lierentli lo[n]c ior cort	
C	elior quil dut venir acort	1296
E	ntre lui et ses [con]pegnons	
P	[or] le deduit des oisellons	
Q	[ue] chas[cun]s fet en son buisson	
D	e ioie ont [con]mencie cest son	1300
L	ors queli ior sont lonc en mai.mes biaux doz	
	chant doisel.de lonc et q[ua]nt me sui p[ar]tiz de la.	
m	embre mi dune amor delonc vois de ca gens	
b	runs et enduis si que chans ne flors daubes	
	pin ne mi val ne cuivers gelas	[f. 75 v 1]
F	et nicole ou m[ou]t a solas	1308

The squires and the humbler folk 1264
 left the hall and the apartments.
 Guillaume spoke to the companions
 who had to stay behind:
 he gave to each all the gifts, 1268
 horses, and wealth he desired.
 They had prepared their journey
 before going to bed,
 so that in the morning when they awoke 1272
 they need do nothing but ride.
 Now you should know that, as they mounted,
 many tears were shed there.
 They had three pack-horses for clothing 1276
 and arms, and horses of great value.
 Guillaume took a tender leave
 of his sister and mother:
 "Goodbye, fair son!" "Goodbye, fair brother!" 1280
 "Goodbye, everyone!" as they departed.
 You may be sure that those remaining
 all wept for the two women.
 Then they were off, may God guide them! 1284
 Noble Guillaume de Dole
 now rode alongside Nicholas,
 and they left the enclosed village. *
 You may be sure that he left 1288
 his mother and his sister,
 who was straighter than a sapling
 and fresher than any rose, very sad.
 Since Guillaume neither slept nor paused 1292
 in a village more than a single night,
 neither for pleasure nor for delight,
 the long days passed quickly for him.
 The day he was due to arrive at court 1296
 he and his companions,
 in their pleasure at the little birds
 all singing in their bushes,
 out of joy began this song: 1300
 When the days are long in May, I love *
 sweet birdsong from afar. Now that I
 have left that place, I remember a love from afar.
 I travel head bent and grieving, so that neither song
 nor hawthorn-flower pleases me any more than winter's frost.
 When he reached the end of his song, 1308

Q [ua]ntvint ala fin de sonson
 N os serons p[ar] tens en meson
 I lmen covient avant aler
 P [or] n[ost]re hostel fere atorer 1312
 F et il ci ne voi se bien non
 M enez o vos.i.[con]pegnon
 Q [ui] revendra en[con]tre nos
 V enez ens fertil moi et vos 1316
 A .i.vallet qui ot trousee
 U ne coute pointe env[er]see
 I lot de g[ra]nt beaute le los
 A mdui senvont les g[ra]nz galos 1320
 A uchastel ouli emp[er]lere
 o t seiorne puis quil sen ere
 t ornez por le prodome q[ue]rre
 O ncpuis une lieue de terre 1324
 N esesloigna por chevauch[ier]
 A inz sefufez iloc saignier
 A poi de gent et sanz anui
 et iougles toziers ovoec lui 1328
 Q [ui] li ramentoit cele ioie
 A hi!dex co[m] il se desvoie
 d ece qui plus li touche au cuer
 C elior fesoit chant[er] la suer 1332
 a uniougleor mout apert
 Q [ui] chante cest vers de gerb[er]t
 D es que fro[monz] au veneor tenca
 li [bons] p[re]voz qui trestout escouta 1336
 t ant atendi que la noise abessa
 S orlarestuel delespie sapuia
 o u voit fro[mont] pas ne le salua
 F ro[monz] ditil ge sui de ciaus dela 1340
 G erbers mis sire qui avos menvoia
 P [ar] moi vos mande nel vos celerai ia
 Q [ue] li envioiez fou[con] que ge voi la
 et Rocelin.car amdeus pris lesa 1344
 et sillenient bien est qui provera
 E ntotes cors la on les trovera
 O uen latoe se sauf [con]duit ia
 F ouques rougi.Rocelins embruncha 1348
 m alsoit decel qui onq[ue]s mot sona
 L iviex fro[monz] forment sen aira
 P [ar] deu provos qui ca vos envioia

Nicholas, who was very merry, said,
 "We shall be home in good time;
 I should go on ahead
 to see about our lodging." 1312
 Guillaume said, "I see nothing but good in that;
 take someone with you
 who can come back to direct us."
 "Come along with me," he told 1316
 a youth who was riding
 on a quilted saddle pad
 (he was considered very handsome).
 Both set off at a gallop 1320
 for the castle where the emperor
 had stayed ever since Nicholas had left
 to go in search of the nobleman.
 Since that time he had gone 1324
 not a league on horseback;
 rather, he had himself bled,
 with only a few people present.
 Jouglet was always with him, 1328
 who reminded him of the enjoyment to come.
 Oh, God, he was going mad
 from the desire in his heart!
 That day he had the sister 1332
 of a talented jongleur sing
 these lines about Gerbert: *

When Fromont sparred with the Hunter,
 the good provost who heard it all
 waited until the noise subsided.
 He leaned on the handle of his sword.
 When he saw Fromont, he did not greet him.
 "Fromont, " he said, "I'm from the other side.
 My lord Gerbert, who sent me to you,
 tells you through me--I tell you frankly--
 to send him Fouques, whom I see here,
 and Rocelin, for he has captured them both.
 If they deny it, then I know someone who'll prove it
 in any court, wherever he finds them,
 even your own, if he has safe-conduct there."
 Fouques flushed, and Rocelin hung his head.
 A curse upon him who utters a word!
 Old Fromont flew into a rage.
 "By God! Provost, the one who sent you here

m	[ou]tbelement de vos se delivra	1352
S	edont vos vit iames ne vos verra	[f. 75 v 2]
et	sil vos voit nevos reconoistra	
E	ncor me membre ne loublierai ia	
d	un guerredon q[ue] me feistes ia	1356
L	i rois de france.i.cheval me dona	
V	oiant voz oils.c.liv[res]li cousta	
V	osloceistes qainc nese remua	
A	Geronvile aupie dou pont deca	1360
U	ns ch[evalie]rs un tel cop mi dona	
d	esor mon heaume q[ue] totleme[n]barra	
P	rendre me fist au col de mo[n] cheval	
et	dit guirrez fromo[n]t entendez ca	1364
C	e fumes filz qui avos sacointa	
M	ort vos eust mes ilvos espargna	
S	ila aaise encor i referra.	
Q	ueque cil chante de fromont	1368
	Ezvos levallet [con]tremont	
l	edegre.qui ot lostel pris	
A	ugentil ch[evalie]r de pris	
o	u plus bel de tot lemarchie	1372
I	lli avoit bien enchargie	
A	ug[ra]nt pignon plain de fenestres	
l	ebiau solier o toz les estres	
A	voit fetjonchier deverdure	1376
et	cil sont si grant aleure	
V	enu apres quil i sont ia	
A	lostel oum[ou]t g[ra]nt rage a	
Q	[ue] quil descendoient tuit.iii.	1380
E	z vos celui devant le roi	
Q	[ui]li demande qex noveles	
F	etli vallez bones et beles	
T	rovas tu mon segnor Guill[ame]	1384
O	il.p[ar] covent qel roiaume	
L	eroi de france na son per.	
H	e!dex vendra il au souper	
p	[ar] foi fetil ainc noitel	1388
G	elai ia mene a lostel	
E	nce marchie chiez.i.boriois	
L	ors saut sus julez demanois	
E	nondeu fet il et gela	1392
H	aha!luglet or i parra	
c	omvos le me saluerez	

managed to get rid of you quite neatly!
 He saw you then, but he never will again,
 or if he does see you he won't recognize you.
 I still remember, and I won't forget it,
 a gift you gave me once:
 when the king of France gave me a horse
 in your presence, that cost him a hundred pounds,
 you killed it, so that it never moved again.
 At Geronville, at the foot of the bridge,
 a knight struck me such a blow
 on my helm that it completely shattered it;
 I had to hold onto my horse's neck."
 Guiretz said, "Listen here, Fromont,
 that was my son you met,
 and he could have killed you, but he spared you.
 If he gets a chance, he'll do it again..."

While he was singing of Fromont,	1368
Nicholas came up the stairs;	
he had engaged for Guillaume,	
the noble and worthy knight,	
the best lodging in the square,	1372
upstairs, facing the street, with many windows,	
as Guillaume had charged him to do.	
He had had the floors strewn with rushes	
and the windows decorated with greenery.	1376
Guillaume and his party had arrived	
so quickly that they had already reached	
the lodging, where they caused quite a to-do.	
While the three of them were dismounting,	1380
Nicholas was there before the king,	
who was asking, "What news?"	
The boy answered, "Great and good!"	
"Did you find my lord Guillaume?"	1384
"Yes, and I swear that in his realm	
the king of France has not his equal."	
"Ah! God, will he come to dine?"	
"My faith," he said, "I don't know yet!	1388
I've already taken him lodgings	
in the square, with a burgher."	
Jouglet at once jumped up:	
"By God!" he said, "I'm off!"	1392
"Aha, Jouglet, now we shall see	
how well you greet him for me.	

b	ien esta droit port arrivez	
c	elidites que ge li mant	1396
c	il sen torne demaintenant	
L	emp[er]eres celui apele	
E	nsus de gent vers lachapele	[f. 76 r 1]
N	icholin foi que doiz honor	1400
o	rdi veis tu sa seror	
T	esiez fet il nedites mes	
N	us hom silnestoit bien [con]fes	
N	edoit parler detel merveille	1404
e	le fu nee sanz pareille	
et	de beaute et de simplece	
D	eson beau chanter par est ce	
U	ne tres douce melodie	1408
N	uls ne loit q[ua]utretel nendie.	
et	que sez tu?gelai oie	
N	ele feri pas lez loie	
Q	ui si li loe la pucele	1412
[c	on]ment fet il!siest sibele	
V	oire fet il ce nest pas doute	
N	ondune chose mes de toute	
d	e braz de cors de chief de vis	1416
A	ussi passe ce mest avis	
D	e beaute bele lienors	
t	otes les autres com li ors	
t	oz les autres metails doumonde	1420
N	e fet pas a son biau non honte	
A	ce q[ue] voi fet lemp[er]ere	
et	q[ue] mi diz tude son frere	
m	[ou]t leverroie volentiers	1424
C	e rest.i.trop biaux ch[evalie]rs	
A	.i.dur piz a uns forz b[ra]s	
A	un chief cresse et aubornaz	
A	.i.biau vis lonc et tretiz	1428
S	a les oilz rianz et hardiz	
et	par reson lees espaulles	
t	els ch[evalie]rs fet len en faules	
S	il est tels dont est il faez	1432
C	e direz vos q[ua]nt le verrez	
S	i tient ades trop riche hostel	
S	uns bien hanz ho[m] le tenoit tel	
S	i i avroit il parlement	1436
t	ant ia ch[evalie]rs et gent	

He has come to the right place,
and tell him that I send for him." 1396
Jouglet set off without delay.

The emperor took Nicholas aside,
away from the others, toward the chapel:
"Little Nicholas, on your honor, 1400
tell me, did you see his sister?"

"Be silent," he said, "say no more!
No man, if he is not newly shriven,
should speak of such a wonder. 1404

She was born without equal
for beauty and modesty.
Her beautiful singing is truly
the sweetest melody; 1408

no one who heard it would say otherwise."
"What do you know of it?" "I have heard it."
No one who praises the maiden thus
will lose Conrad's attention. 1412

"In what way," he asked, "is she so beautiful?"
"Truly," the boy answered, "there is no doubt,
not in one thing, but in all,
her arms, her body, her head, her face. 1416

It seems to me, fair Lienor
surpasses the others in beauty,
as gold outshines
all other metals in the world." 1420

"She lives up to her beautiful name,
from what I tell," said the emperor.
"And what can you tell me of her brother?
I am most anxious to see him." 1424

"For his part, he is a handsome knight,
with a powerful chest, a strong arm,
curly blond hair,
and a fair face, long and refined. 1428

He has bold and laughing eyes,
and shoulders of a good breadth."
"Such knights as these they make up in stories:
if he is such, then he is enchanted!" 1432

"That's what you'll say when you see him.
He keeps a rich and noble house;
if a powerful man had one like it,
he would have quite an entourage. 1436
There are so many knights and men

Q [ue] len ni puet son pie torner
 o rva tost si fai atorner
 A son ostel q[ua]nquil voudra 1440
 N iere aaise trusquil vendra
 C il sen vet et li rois remaint
 m[ou]t hetiez et p[ar] laienz maint
 p [or] feste dou bon bachelier 1444
 Q [ue] iouglez devoit amener [f. 76 r 2]
 Q [ui] a lostel ala poroec
 S e sa suer venist or ovoec
 d ont p[ar] fust la ioie plenièr 1448
 S i iert liez dest[ra]nge maniere
 L irois quil ne puet estre en.i.lieu
 l a chancon Renaut de baiuièu
 d e rencien le bon ch[evalie]r 1452
 p [or] son cors plus esleecier
 d e ioie doubon bachel[er]
 [C on]menca lues droit a chanter
 L oial amor qui enfin cuer sest mise.
 nen doit iames partir ne remouvoir.
 Q ue la dolor qui destraint et iustise
 S amble doucor q[ua]nt len lapuet avoir.
 Q [ui] en porroit morir en bon espoir
 G ariz seroit devant deu au joise
 p [or] ce menlo q[ua]nt plus me fet doloir-----
 o r sachiez de fi et de voir
 Q uil p[re]nt tozles maus en bons grez
 et jouglez qui estoit alez 1472
 Q [ue]rre le gentil ch[evalie]r
 A incois quil entrast elsolier
 Q [ua]nt il ot montez les degrez
 d el solier si sest escriez 1476
 d ole ch[evalie]r a Guillaume
 o uest li deduiz dou roiaume
 L i solaz et la g[ra]nt proece
 I l saut sus.ha juglet qest ce 1480
 D ont venez vos biaux doz amis
 S es b[ra]z li a lors au col mis
 et si en fet ioie trop grant
 C illi dit lues demaintenant 1484
 Q [ue] bien puissiez estre venuz
 et si vos mande.c.saluz
 l emp[er]ere n[ost]re bon sire

that you can hardly turn around."

"Now go quickly, have his lodging provided
with whatever he might want; 1440

I will not be happy until he arrives."

Nicholas went, and the king stayed behind
in high good humor, and prepared
to receive the good young knight 1444
whom Jouglet was to bring,

for he'd gone to his lodging to fetch him.
If only his sister had come with him,
the emperor's joy would have been complete. 1448

The king was so extraordinarily happy
that he could not sit still.

Out of joy at the good young man,
and to delight his heart, 1452
he at once began to sing

the song of Renaut de Beaujeu,
the good knight from Reims:

Faithful love which enters a noble heart
must never desert or leave it,
for the pain which rules and leads it
seems sweetness when one can have it.

Anyone who could die of love in good hope
would be safe before God at the last judgment,
and so I praise love when most it makes me suffer.

Now you may be very sure
that he suffered all his pains gladly.

And Jouglet, who had gone 1472
to seek the noble knight,

before he reached the upper floor,

as he was climbing the steps
to the solar, cried, *1476

"Dole! Knight! Oh, Guillaume!

Where is the joy of the realm,
its strength and consolation?"

Guillaume leaped up: "Ah, Jouglet, what's this? 1480
Where did you come from, fair sweet friend?"

He threw his arms around his neck
and was delighted to see him.

First Jouglet told him, 1484
"May you be welcome!

And the emperor, our good lord,
sends you a hundred greetings.

S	i vos di q[ue] m[ou]t vos desire	1488
A	veoir ce sachiez devoir	
A	mbedui se vont lues seoir	
d	une part a une fenestre	
L	ors li a conte tot son estre	1492
et	la maniere delaferre	
[c	on]ment il fist les letres fere	
et	coment li rois lemanda	
p	[ar] le [con]te quil li conta	1496
N	esai q[ue] vos deisse plus	
m	es vos estes tot audesus	[f. 76 v 1]
et	trestoz mestres dela cort	
S	es biauxbraz q[ui] nesont pas cort	1500
L	i alues mis de ioie aucol	
b	eaus amis fet il q[ue] iacol	
b	uer vos levastesonc cel ior.	
m	[ou]t avomes fet lonc seior	1504
p	[or] vos atendre en cest chastel.	
v	[ost]re merci or mest m[ou]t bel	
d	e ce que ie sai la verte	
et	porquoi li rois mamande	1508
o	r fetes donques bele chiere	
N	icholes rest venuz arriere	
S	i fist atorner le disner	
h	astes et q[ua]nqen pot trover	1512
b	onsvins et gastelez fourrez	
Q	[ua]nt li disners fuatornez	
I	l portent amont laviande	
M	is sires Guill[ame] [con]mande	1516
Q	on apiaut son oste et sa fame	
F	et julez mandez aladame	
Q	el amaint ovoec li sa fille	
Q	[ui] m[ou]t bel satorne et atire	1520
E	ncest chastel nasi vaillant	
l	es napes mistrent li seriant	
S	or vert herbe sor biaux coissins	
I	l levent puisse sont assis	1524
A	cel disner a chevalier	
p	[or] atendre le grant mengier	
p	lus aaise iusqa la nuit.	
F	etiugles ie criem quil nanuit	1528
l	emp[er]eor ceste demeure	
d	escarlare noir come meure	

I tell you, he cannot wait 1488
 to see you, you may be sure."
 Then they both went to sit
 together at the window,
 and Jouglet told Guillaume the whole story, 1492
 how everything had come about,
 how Conrad had the letter written
 in which the king had sent for him
 because of the story Jouglet had told him. 1496
 "I don't know what else to tell you,
 but you are at the very top,
 and quite the master of the court."
 Jouglet put his fair long arms 1500
 around Guillaume's neck, for joy:
 "Fair friend," he said, "I embrace you--
 you woke up lucky that day!
 We have made a long stay 1504
 at this castle, waiting for you."
 "Thank you, and I'm very glad
 now that I know the truth
 of why the king has sent for me." 1508
 "So be of good cheer!"
 Nicholas then returned as well,
 and had a meal prepared,
 roast meat and everything he could find, 1512
 good wines and little stuffed pasties.
 When the meal was ready
 the servants brought up the food.
 My lord Guillaume called for 1516
 his host and his lady,
 and Jouglet said, "Have the lady
 bring her daughter with her,
 who is so beautifully dressed: 1520
 there is none so lovely in the castle."
 The servants spread the tablecloths
 on green grasses, on fair cushions;
 they washed, and then sat down 1524
 to a light meal for knights,
 so that they could hold out
 more comfortably until the evening meal.
 Jouglet said, "I'm afraid the emperor 1528
 will not like this delay."
 Guillaume had a new cloak

o	t robe fresche apene hermine	
m	[ou]t soef flerant et mout fine	1532
L	a vesti lues qen ot mengie	
h	a!fet jugles dex or voi gie	
R	obe dela taille de france	
t	ant i ot il de segnorance	1536
L	ibiaus li prous li debonaires	
Q	[ue] li autre orent penes vaires	
A	sables noires soef flairanz	
m	[ou]t fu ore mains acesmanz	1540
H	uedes de rades de crouci	
d	undecez.iii.que ie dici	
E	ncor ot il assez avel	[f. 76 v 2]
l	apucele dona chapel	1544
A	chas[cun] dindes flors trop beles	
b	lans ganz et ceintures noveles	
l	or aporta li chamberlens	
Q	[ue] que chas[cun]s vestoit les soens	1548
o	nlor amaine lor chevax	
G	[ra]nz destriers de pris bons et biax	
d	espaigne a lorains de limoges	
Q	[ue] quil avaloient des loges	1552
L	a borioise se prist bien garde	
Q	[ue] mon s[egn]or guill[ame] esgarde	
S	afille qui si ot biau cors	
m	[ou]t sambla bien haut home lors	1556
Q	[ua]nt il fu sor le g[ra]nt destrier	
I	ouglet fetil sail ci detriers	
F	rere si me feras solas.	
F	etla pucele ie vos has	1560
I	uglet que nechantastes puis	
Q	[ue] entrastes dedenz cest huis	
m	essires Guill[ames] sen rit	
c	ertes fet il m[ou]t a bien dit	1564
S	i dit orle me pardonez	
v	olentiers voir se revenez	
A	nq[ue]nuit o tot la viele	
v	olentiers voir madamoisele	1568
S	e nos devons fere caroles	
m	[ou]t les tient de belesparoles	
t	ot de front sor le pavement	
o	r sachiez bien certainement	1572
m	[ou]t lor furent bel lichapel	

of a cloth as dark as blackberry,
 lined with ermine, very sweet-smelling and fine, 1532
 which he put on as soon as they had eaten.
 "Ah!" said Jouglet, "God! Now I see
 a cloak cut in the French style."
 Guillaume was so beneficent, 1536
 the fair, valiant, highborn man,
 that the others also had cloaks
 lined with squirrel and sweet-smelling black sables.
 Eudes de Rades de Crouci, 1540
 though he was very wealthy,
 was far less elegant
 than any one of these three I'm describing.
 The maiden gave them each a garland 1544
 of beautiful blue flowers;
 the chamberlain brought them
 white gloves and new belts.
 While each was putting his on, 1548
 their horses were brought to them,
 large, handsome, excellent horses
 from Spain, with gear from Limoges.
 While they were going down the stairs 1552
 their hostess took good care
 that my lord Guillaume saw
 her daughter, who had such a figure.
 He truly looked like a great man 1556
 when he was mounted on the charger:
 "Jouglet," he said, "climb up behind me,
 brother, and keep me company."
 The maiden said, "I hate you, 1560
 Jouglet, for you have not sung once
 since you came into this house!"
 My lord Guillaume laughed at this:
 "Certainly," he said, "she's spoken truly." 1564
 Said Jouglet: "Pardon me for it!"
 "I will, gladly, if you return
 this evening with your vielle."
 "I will, gladly, miss, 1568
 and we must dance some carols."
 She kept them there with fair words
 in the street before the house.
 You may be very sure 1572
 that they loved their garlands.

l or sires ot tret en chantel
 S on mantel sor son braz senestre
 t uit cilde larue et delestre 1576
 L e resgardent ag[ra]nt mervelle
 Q uant jugles li chante en lorelle
 A aliz main seleva
 bon ior ait qui mo[n] cuer a
 b iau se vesti et para desoz launoi
 b on ior ait qui mo[n] cuer a nest pas omoi
 E insi senvont tote larue 1585
 bien de tant loig com.i.hom rue
 S elevoient les genz en[con]tre
 b one aventure et bon en[con]tre 1588
 v os doint hui dex font li boriois
 C e ne sont pas genz a gabois
 F ont il basset li uns alautre [f. 77 r 1]
 E insi sen vont triez .i.triez autre 1592
 l e petit pas sor les destriers
 a ssez fu quitint les estriers
 c e sachiez q[ua]nt il descendirent
 Q [ua]nt li rois et ses genz le virent 1596
 L i ch[evalie]r de lor fenestre
 p [ar] toz sains fet il bien puet estre
 D e celui la ce qe lendit
 v osne verrez devant lendit 1600
 F et il au conte de forois
 N ene veistes mes des mois
 c h[evalie]r miex samblast p[ro]dome
 A briez moz vos dirai lasome 1604
 Q [ue] puis le tens paris de troie
 N e recut on a si grant ioie
 a une cort demp[er]eor
 c h[evalie]r a si grant honor 1608
 b ien ait dont qui le deservi
 b iaus amis onc mes ne vos vi
 F et li emp[er]eres corras
 m out as desirre voz solas 1612
 et sen ai bien g[ra]nt faim eue
 p [or] atendre vostre venue
 A i ci atendu.xv.iors
 G [ra]nt chose est damer p[ar] amors 1616
 Q uelen en est plus fins cortois
 m ain a main sen vont v[er]s le dois

Their lord held his cloak
 on one side, over his left arm.
 Everyone in the street and at their lodging 1576
 looked on with pleasure
 as Jouglet sang in his ear,
 Aaliz rose up early.
 Good day to him who holds my heart!
 She dressed and adorned herself, beneath the alder.
 Good day to him who holds my heart! He's not with me.
 Thus they went off down the street. 1585
 From quite a distance
 people came up to greet them:
 "May God give you good fortune 1588
 and good meeting today!" said the burghers.
 "These people are not to be taken lightly,"
 they told each other in an undertone.
 Without delay they set off 1592
 at a walk on their horses.
 Many were there to hold their stirrups,
 you can imagine, when they dismounted.
 When the king and his people saw 1596
 the knight from their window,
 "By all the saints!" he cried,
 "it's true what they say of him!
 From now til the Fair, you will not see-- *1600
 nor have you seen for quite some time--
 a knight who looks more like a nobleman,"
 he told the count of Forois.
 I will tell you everything in a few words, 1604
 for, since the time of Paris of Troy,
 no knight was ever received
 at an emperor's court with such great joy,
 or shown such great honor: 1608
 good fortune to the man who deserves it!
 "Fair friend, I have never seen you,"
 said the emperor Conrad;
 "I have much desired your company, 1612
 and I have been longing for it.
 I have stayed here for two weeks
 waiting for your arrival."
 It is a great thing to be in love, 1616
 for it makes one a more courtly nobleman.
 Arm in arm they went to the table,

et li autre apres dui et dui
 l emp[er]eres le vout v[er]s lui 1620
 a sseoir mes nel pot soffrir
 Q en ne notast enson venir
 E nlui se cortoisie non
 A inz sassist et si [con]paignon 1624
 u n poi plusbas que lemp[er]ere
 I lli a demande sil ere
 P oint privez dou roi dengleterre
 m [ou]t a eulonguement guerre 1628
 E n[con]tre lui noz rois de france
 I cele p[re]miere acointance
 S ivint de g[ra]nt affetement
 et si[con]pegnon ensement 1632
 Q [ui] sorent m[ou]t bien qendut fere
 S e racointierent dautre amor afere
 A s[con]pegnons lemp[er]eor
 h a!se il osast por honor 1636
 c om il parlast ia volentiers [f. 77 r 2]
 C ene fust mie demoustiers
 c ouvrir nedechaucies faire
 m es dela preus la debonaire 1640
 d e cui avoit le feu ou cors.
 A tant est venuz jouglez lors
 Q [ui] set mout bien co[m] las bues marge
 N e [con]tez pas v[ost]re lignage 1644
 m es parlez darmes et damors
 c ar de lundi en.xv.iors
 I ertli tornois a sainteron
 E nondue jouglet nos iron 1648
 F etlues droit mes sire Guill[ame]
 Il ne me faut qun tot seul heaume
 Q [ue] iai t[re]stout lautre estovoir
 Q uil covient ch[evalie]r avoir 1652
 c hauces haub[er]c et haub[er]cion
 c heval hardi come lion
 F ort et isnel et bien corant
 F et iouglez et gevos creant 1656
 Q [ue] heaume trov[er]ons nos bien
 I e p[er]di lautre ior le mien
 Q [ua]nt ie fui pris arougement
 F et lues li mieudres rois de mont 1660
 p [or] ce q[ue] riens ne vos soufraigne

and the others after them, two by two.
 The emperor wanted to seat Guillaume next to him, 1620
 but Guillaume demurred, lest
 anyone see anything but
 great courtesy in his manners;
 instead, he seated himself and his companions 1624
 a little lower than the emperor,
 who asked Guillaume if he was
 at all acquainted with the king of England.
 There had long been a war 1628
 between him and our kings of France.
 This first meeting of theirs
 came off with much politeness.
 Guillaume's companions likewise, 1632
 who well knew what they had to do,
 took trouble to get to know
 the emperor's companions.
 Ah, if Conrad had dared, on his honor, 1636
 how willingly he would have spoken!
 He did not want to talk
 of building churches or roads,
 but of the noble highborn girl 1640
 for whom his heart was on fire.
 So Jouglet intervened, since he knew
 which way the wind was blowing: *
 "Don't talk about your lineage, 1644
 but talk of arms and love,
 for two weeks from Monday
 there's a tournament at Saint-Trond."
 "By God, Jouglet! We shall go," 1648
 said my lord Guillaume at once.
 "All I need is a single helmet,
 for I have everything else
 a knight must have: 1652
 leggings, hauberk and haubergeon,
 a horse as brave as a lion,
 strong and swift and fast."
 Jouglet said, "I warrant you 1656
 we will soon find you a helmet."
 "I lost mine the other day
 when I was captured at Rougemont."
 At once the best king in the world said, 1660
 "So that you will lack for nothing,

l	e mellor de tote alemaigne	
v	os donrai et le plus fetiz	
et	si fu il fez a senliz	1664
S	i vos di qon avroit encor	
d	es pierres gens sont et de lor	
E	l nasel et ou cercle entor	
D	eniers por fere une g[ra]nt tor	1668
L	ors [con]manda son chamb[er]lenc	
	Qen claime baudoin flamenc	
Q	[ue] liaport le heaume ca	
Q	[ui] li fu apotez pieca	1672
o	voec le haub[er]c dechambli	
C	il nela pas mis en oubli	
A	inz laporte sanz delaier	
Q	[ua]nt il lot mis hors dou heaumier	1676
S	i lessua dune touaille	
E	nondeu cils est biaux sanz faille	
F	etlues droit mis sir Guill[ames]	
I	lna sibel en.ii.roiaumes	1680
c	e nest pas dons de vavassor	
N	onainz est dons demp[er]jeor	
Q	[ui] por tels ioiaux doit aquerre	[f. 77 v 1]
l	es haus bachelers de saterre	1684
L	ors li baille par le nasel	
T	enez encor vos donrai el	
S	ire fetil dexte vos mire	
C	hascuns qui lesgarde si mire	1688
a	usi com en.i.mireoir	
o	r ne puet mie remanoir	
p	[or] heaume font si [con]pegnon	
d	ou tornoi que nos ni aillo[n]	1692
F	etlemp[er]lere or i parra	
d	ire orrons bien q[ui]i vendra	
L	i qex en portera le pris	
L	i serjanz ale heaume pris	1696
Q	[ue] il avoit maint ior garde	
Q	[ua]nt illorent bien esgarde	
I	lle ramis en son heaumier	
F	etil orle portez arrier	1700
A	inq[ue]nuit si vos en vendrez	
o	voec moi si lempor[te]rez	
Q	[ua]nt ie men irai alostel	
o	nq[ue]s nefurent gent en tel	1704

I will give you the best
 and the most beautiful helmet in Germany,
 which was made in Senlis. 1664
 I tell you, with what the stones
 set into it cost, and the gold
 in the noseguard and all around it,
 a man would have enough to build a great tower." 1668
 Then Conrad ordered his chamberlain,
 called Baudoin the Fleming,
 to bring him the helmet
 which had come with a hauberk 1672
 from Chambly some time ago.
 Baudoin hadn't forgotten it,
 and he quickly brought it to Conrad.
 When he had taken it out of its case 1676
 he buffed it with a cloth.
 My lord Guillaume said at once,
 "By God! It's beautiful indeed."
 There isn't one like it in two kingdoms; 1680
 this is no vavassour's gift,
 to be sure, but rather an emperor's,
 who with such treasures must win
 the noble knights of his land. 1684
 Conrad handed it to him by the noseguard, saying,
 "Take it--and I shall give you more beside."
 "Lord," said Guillaume, "may God reward you for it."
 Anyone who looked into it could have seen 1688
 himself reflected as if in a mirror.
 "Now it won't be for want
 of a helmet," said his companions,
 "if we miss this tournament." 1692
 The emperor said, "We shall see:
 we will hear which of those
 who go there will bear off the prize."
 Baudoin took back the helmet 1696
 which he had been saving for a long time;
 when they had looked at it long enough,
 he put it away in its case again.
 Guillaume said, "Now take it back. 1700
 If you come with me tonight,
 you shall bring it
 when I go to my lodging."
 Never were there people so eager 1704

c ome sont cil bon ch[evalie]r
 M on segnor guill[ame] acointier
 et ses [con]pegnons ambedeus
 L i serjant envoient as keus 1708
 S avoir sil poent nappesmetre
 I lni a que delentremetre
 Q [ue] il ontle mengier tot prest
 S ans alonge sanz plus darrest 1712
 et dus et [con]tes trus qa.vi.
 L i rois leve si sest assis
 et pardelez lui a sacoste
 a fet seoir son novel oste 1716
 Q entraus.ii.not q[ue].i.sol [con]te
 N e faz des autres nul a[con]te
 p or ce quil erent de laienz
 D es viandes et des presenz 1720
 N e redoit nuls fere devise
 Q [ue] chas[cun]s ot q[ua]nquil devise
 S anz attendre sanz corroucier
 et il rot m[ou]t a ce mengier 1724
 p arle de ce tornoiement
 et sachiez bien c[er]tainement
 Q [ui]liot tex qui plus endirent
 C e sachiez bien q[ue] il nen firent 1728
 et cest a prodome mout let [f. 77 v 2]
 M es sire Guill[ames] les let
 E ntreuls parl[er] si ne dit mot
 l emp[er]ere qui mout lamot 1732
 l eresgarde sap[er]coit bien
 Q uil entendoit a autre rien
 c eli est vis quil ne disoit
 S i fesoit il car il pensoit 1736
 A utornoi tot vaintre et outrer
 p [or] son novel heaume honorer
 o uille [con]perra m[ou]t chier
 Q [ua]ntil sont leve dou meng[ier] 1740
 et lemp[er]ere ot leve eue
 et lescuieraille menue
 et li anuis ist dou palais
 o ulen peust fere.i.eslais 1744
 L ors vindrent li menesterel
 L i uns note un li autres el
 c il conte ci de perceval

as Conrad's good knights were
 to be presented to my lord Guillaume
 and to his two companions.
 The servants sent to ask the cooks 1708
 if they should set the table;
 this was all there was left to do,
 for the food was quite ready.
 Without delay, without ado, 1712
 the king rose and seated himself at table
 with as many as six dukes and counts,
 and next to him, by his side,
 he had his new guest seated, 1716
 so that between them there was only a single count. *
 I won't tell about the others,
 since they were from the court.
 Of the meats and of the gifts 1720
 no one need make a list either,
 for each one had whatever he wished,
 without waiting and without irritation.
 There was much more talk 1724
 about the tournament at dinner,
 though you can easily imagine
 that there were some who said more about it
 than they ever did, that's for certain-- 1728
 which is very unseemly in a gentleman.
 My lord Guillaume let them
 talk among themselves, and said not a word.
 The emperor, who loved him well, 1732
 looked at him and noticed
 that he was thinking of something else,
 it seemed, that he did not mention.
 Indeed he was, for he meant 1736
 to win the entire tournament
 to honor his new helmet,
 or it would cost him very dear.
 When they had got up from the meal, 1740
 and the emperor had washed,
 and the young squires
 and the boors had left the palace,
 where one could have a gallop, 1744
 then the minstrels arrived.
 One played one piece, and one played another;
 the one told of Perceval,

C	il ra[con]te de rainceval	1748
p	[ar] les rens devant les barons.	
c	il Guill[ames] que nos disons	
N	estoit mie toz a ap[re]ndre	
A	inz savoit m[ou]t bien reson rendre	1752
A	ceuz a qui devoit parl[er]	
l	emp[er]eres sanz apel[er]	
l	e prent p[ar] la main si len maine	
N	on poroir de charlemaine	1756
A	inz senvont en.i.lit seoir	
o	uil gastent pres tot le soir	
E	n demand[er] de ses noveles	
c	eles qui plus li fussent beles	1760
N	osa il onques amentoivre	
p	[or] ce quil doute lapercoivre	
D	e lui et de ses [con]pegnons	
et	iougles lora dit chancons	1764
et	fabliaus nesai.iii.ou.iiii.	
l	emp[er]eres por lui esbatre	
L	e reveut detant [con]forter	
Q	[ui]l veut ceste chancon chant[er]	1768
M	out me demeure q[ue] noi chanter la	
	toutre a lentree destre.ausi co[m] ge	
	soloie.mes une amor me desvoie.	
	et tient esgare ouiai mo[n] pense.	
	quel lieu q[ue] onques soie-----	
t	ant ont sor la coute de soie	
E	nvoisie et fet lordeliz	[f. 78 r. 1]
Q	[ue] dient quiron alor liz	
F	etli rois aisi irai gie	1780
Q	[ua]nt nos avromes pris [con]gie	**
Q	uil fet bon boivre ap[re]s chancons	
L	orshuchalenles eschancons	
A	tant ez vos un chapelain	1784
	Qui la coupe tint en la main	
A	ussi com une pierre en lor	
l	i freres bele lienor	
b	ut ap[re]s le roi premerains	1788
I	e nesai qui fu deerrains	
M	es q[ua]nt tuit ont eu le vin	
I	l a fet apeler boidin	
Q	ui li a son heaume porte	1792
E	s chevax quisont ap[re]ste	

the other told of Roncesvalles, 1748
 performing before the lords.
 This Guillaume I've been talking about
 didn't need to be taught--
 he knew how to converse 1752
 with those he had to speak to.
 The emperor without speaking
 took Guillaume by the hand and led him away,
 not to hear about Charlemagne; 1756
 instead they went to sit on a couch,
 where they idled away the evening
 as Conrad asked Guillaume about himself.
 The emperor did not dare to mention 1760
 the subject he cared most about,
 for he was afraid that Guillaume
 and his companions would know something was up.
 Jouglet sang three or four songs 1764
 and fabliaux for them.
 The emperor, to amuse himself,
 wanted to entertain Guillaume
 by singing him this song: 1768
 It is so long since I have heard
 the turtledove sing in early summer
 as once I used to do; but a love distracts me,
 and keeps me lost where my thought is,
 no matter where I may be.
 They stayed on their silken cushion,
 amusing and enjoying themselves,
 until they said they would go to bed.
 The king said, "I shall go too, 1780
 as soon as we have taken our leave--
 for it's good to drink after a few songs."
 Then they shouted for the stewards.
 At that a chamberlain arrived 1784
 holding in his hand a cup
 like a jewel set in gold.
 The brother of fair Lienor
 was the first to drink after the king. 1788
 I do not know who was the last,
 but when they all had had some wine,
 Guillaume had them call Baudoin,
 the one who had brought him his helmet. 1792
 Arm in arm they went to the horses,

A	udegre senvont main a main	
m	ors soit nedormira demain	
F	et lirois bone matinee	1796
c	este parole m[ou]t agree	
A	ciaus qui erent las derrer	
L	i [con]pegnon firent porter	
I	uglet a lostel la viele	1800
p	orlamor ala damoisele.	
.ii.	et.ii.montent es roncins	
M	is sire Guill[ame] et boidins	
.I.	autres reporta luglet	1804
A	lostel oulen sentremet	
d	alumer plente detortiz	
S	ont trove labele aaliz	
I	ldescendent si vont amont	1808
o	u solier oulivallet ont	
b	on fruit et bons vins aplente	
l	adame et sa fille ont este	
A	umeng[ier] a m[ou]t g[ra]nt deduit	1812
m	[ou]t p[re]s dusq[ue] vers miemuit	
o	nt entrex chante et ragie	
Q	[ua]nt li chamb[er]lenz p[ri]st [con]gie	
U	n sorcot qui fleroit la g[ra]ine	1816
Q	[ui] fu fez en cele semaine	
d	escarlante et de vairs entiers	f. 78 r 2]
L	i fist li gentils ch[evalie]rs	
a	port[er] par.i.soen vallet	1820
S	i fres et si cler et si net	
l	a cil pris qui len mercia	
h	a!dex fet jugles co[m] ci a	
b	iausorcot et net poreste	1824
u	ne chape qui ot este	
t	ote fresche o tot le sorcot	
Q	[ui] lagraine encore flerot	
R	efetlues sonoste aport[er]	1828
E	rroment sanz plus arrest[er]	
d	ona juglet saroube h[er]mine	
p	uis quil a tot mis a lamine	
I	ene sai quil en feist el	1832
l	abone dame de lostel	
d	ona trop bon fermail a cote	
G	ardez le bien fet il bel oste	
Q	[ui]l vaut encore.xiii.liv[res]	1836

which were ready at the door.
 "A curse on him who doesn't sleep
 late tomorrow!" said the king. 1796
 These words were very welcome to those
 who were worn out from traveling.
 The companions had Jouglet
 bring his vielle to their lodging, 1800
 for the maiden's sake.
 Two by two my lord Guillaume
 and Baudoin mounted their palfreys;
 another brought Jouglet back 1804
 to the lodging, where people began
 to light plenty of torches.
 There they found fair Aaliz.
 They dismounted and went upstairs 1808
 to the upper floor, where the serving-boys
 brought in plenty of good fruit and wine.
 The lady and her daughter were present
 at the meal, and enjoyed themselves. 1812
 Until close on midnight
 they all sang and enjoyed themselves noisily.
 When the chamberlain took his leave,
 Guillaume the noble knight 1816
 had one of his pages bring in
 a tunic, which still smelled of scarlet dye,
 and had been made the week before
 of fine cloth and whole squirrel furs. 1820
 Baudoin accepted it, and thanked Guillaume,
 for it was bright and fresh and new.
 "Oh, lord!" said Jouglet,
 "that's a nice light summer tunic!" 1824
 To his host Guillaume presented
 a traveling-cloak, which was made
 quite new just like the tunic,
 and also still smelled of scarlet dye. 1828
 Just as quickly, without hesitating,
 he gave Jouglet his ermine cloak.
 Since he had given everything away,
 I don't know what more he could have done! 1832
 To the good lady of the house
 he gave a fine clasp for her tunic.
 "Keep it well," he said, "fair hostess,
 for it is worth thirteen pounds. 1836

I	a nuls q[ui] lait aucol niert ivres	
S	il bevoit totlevin dorliens	
d	it li hostes car fust il miens	
A	usi boi ie trop tote ior	1840
l	adamoisele ot paramor	
S	a ceinture dargent ferree	
D	eloier carel a chantee	
o	voec iouglet enla viele	1844
C	este chanconete novele.	
C	est laius en la praele	
	orai bone amor novele	
d	ras i gaoit perronele.bien doi ioie avoir	
o	rai bon amor novele a mon vouloir-----	
F	et boidins bien dit jougles voir	1852
m	on segnor de vostre maniere	
m	out vosa moustre bele chiere	
F	et ses hostes en son venir	
b	ien porra encoravenir	1856
Q	[ue] bien liert guerredonee	
c	este chape de vair fourree	
et	ciz sables noirs come neure	
b	oidins nifet plus dedemeure	1860
A	inz sen vet m[ou]t a son bon gre	
I	l p[re]nt un roncín audegre	
Q	[ui] la trusqala cort porte	
I	lna nule part arreste	1864
A	inz vint devant lemp[er]eor	
p	or leprodome fere honor	[f. 78 v 1]
v	estu le sorcot qui fu nues	
L	i emp[er]eres estoit loes	1868
E	ntrez en son lit por dormir	
E	rroment quil le vit venir	
b	oidin fet il qui vos dona	
t	el sorcot cil fet il qui na	1872
t	alent de prester a usure	
o	nqes si gentil creature	
c	e sachiez ne fune si large	
p	uis q[ue] ialai en cest voiage	1876
o	uge ne voil demorer gaires	
A	ildone de robes vaires	
et	de joiaus qui vaut.c.l[ivres]	
E	insi sera p[ar] tens delivres	1880
d	eson avoir sil ne se garde	

Whoever wears it at his throat will never be drunk,
 not if he should drink all the wine of Orleans."
 The host answered, "Then I should have it,
 since I drink so much every day!" 1840
 The maiden received as a token
 his belt with the silver buckle
 to thank her for singing
 this new little song 1844
 with Jouglet and his vielle:
 Down there in the little meadow--
 now I have a fine new love!--
 Perronelle was washing clothes. I should indeed be happy:
 now I have a fine new love just to my taste.
 Baudoin said, "Jouglet spoke the truth,
 my lord, about your generosity." 1852
 "He has given us good cheer
 with his coming," said the host.
 "He may yet be rewarded 1856
 for giving these gifts,
 this cloak lined with fur
 and these sables dark as blackberries."
 Baudoin stayed no longer, 1860
 but went away very happy.
 He took a mount at the steps,
 and went back to the court;
 he didn't stop off anywhere, 1864
 but went right to the emperor,
 dressed in his new tunic,
 to do honor to the gentleman.
 The emperor had just gone 1868
 to his bed, to sleep;
 as soon as Conrad saw him come in,
 he asked, "Baudoin, who gave you
 that tunic?" Baudoin answered, "it was one 1872
 who has no taste for usury!
 Never was there such a noble
 or generous creature, believe me.
 Since I went on this errand, 1876
 and I wasn't there long,
 he's given away a hundred pounds' worth
 of furred robes and jewels."
 "At that rate he'll soon be free 1880
 of his wealth, if he is not careful,"

F	etlemp[er]eres naiez garde	
S	ire quil en aura assez	
m	[ou]t est as boriois bel et sez	1884
Q	[ua]nt il vient emprunter lelor	
Q	uil lor done et fet grant honor	
et	si sont bien apoint paie	
b	ien a le sorcote emploie	1888
F	etlemp[er]eres.si oi bien	
S	iest rois qui puet doner rien	
A	tant vont asliz q[ui] miex miex	
	les paroles et li soumiex	1892
F	et endormir lemp[er]eor	
A	u matin de bien et donor	
S	e porpensali gentils rois	
.v.c.	livresde couloignoies	1896
L	i envoia tot en deniers	
I	l set bien quil li ert mestiers	
A	ce fere quil a empris	
d	e.ii.trop beaus destriers de pris	1900
et	de.ii.g[ra]nz coupes dargent	
F	ist a ses [con]paignons present	
A	incois quil ississent desliz	
I	llen rendirent les merciz	1904
Q	[ua]ntil alerent ala messe	
m	[ou]t vaut.i.biaus dons sanz p[ro]messe	
et	m[ou]t fetbien qui sen porpense.	
b	ienavez hui paie vostre ense	1908
F	et li bons ch[evalie]rs au roi	
E	insi set dex p[re]ndre [con]roi	
D	e ciax qui servent en ma voie.	
V	osavez mestier de monoie	[f. 78 v 2] 1912
S	ovent se mes flamenz ne ment	
e	zvos iuglet au p[ar]lement	
l	e mantel dermine au col.	
m	[ou]t avez tost trove.i.fol	1916
F	et lemp[er]eres biaux amis	
C	il est fors de sarobe mis	
F	et jugles einssi doit on fere	
A	utant li vaut cele vert vaire	1920
et	ceste me raura mestie	
m	outontparloisir ou mostier	
P	arle de cest riche present	
L	ues qenot mengie erroment	1924

said the emperor. "Never fear,
 lord, for he will have enough:
 when he needs to borrow from the bourgeois 1884
 they are satisfied and content,
 for he gives them gifts and shows them honor,
 and also they are well repaid."
 "Then he used the tunic well," 1888
 said the emperor; "I've always heard that
 a man is a king if he can give something."
 With this they went straight to bed;
 the conversation and his drowsiness 1892
 made the emperor fall asleep.
 In the morning the noble king
 had a kindly and honorable thought:
 he sent Guillaume five hundred pounds 1896
 of Cologne currency, all in coins.
 He knew well that Guillaume would need it
 for what he had undertaken.
 Conrad sent to Guillaume's companions as a gift 1900
 two fine chargers of great value,
 and two great silver cups
 before they ever got out of bed.
 They thanked him for them 1904
 when they went to mass.
 A fair gift without a promise is worth much,
 and he does well who thinks to give it.
 "Today you have made a great gift," 1908
 said the good knight to the king.
 "Thus does God take care
 of those who serve in my entourage.
 You are often in need of money, 1912
 if my Fleming Baudoin does not lie."
 Jouglet arrived at the assembly,
 his ermine cloak on his shoulders:
 "You've found a madman early, 1916
 my friend," said the emperor;
 "This one has lost his cloak!"
 Jouglet said, "That's how it's done.
 That furred green one is just as good for him, 1920
 and this one will be useful for me!"
 Many of those at church
 talked at length about this rich present.
 As soon as they had eaten, 1924

M	is sire Guill[ames] fet fere	
A	unclerc de letres.iii.paire	
S	en envoie unes samere	
et	li mande [con]ment il ere	1928
t	oz sires delemp[er]eor	
S	i envoia a sa seror	
u	ne corroie et.i.fermail	
S	i ot ovoec en.i.fambail	1932
.ccc.	l[ivres] de cel argent	
p	[or] paier la menue gent	
et	as boriois cui il devoit	
S	achiez que lamere enavoit	1936
b	on mestier enmaintes manieres	
p	[or] feresemer ses linieres	
Q	a maintenir.i.bon hostel	
c	ovient assez et un et el	1940
N	uls nel set sil ne la afere	
t	ot son covine et son afere	
F	ist savoir a ses [con]paignons	
S	i lor prie et mande par nons	1944
Q	[ue] se dex les deffent danui	
Q	uil soient tuit en[con]tre lui	
A	sainteron sanz nule faille	
et	que chas[cun]s plus bel i aille	1948
et	miex acesmez quil porra	
Q	[ue] sil vit tant quili vaudra	
I	ouster debeles lances paintes	
L	es autres letres ont ataintes	1952
S	es envoie auliege batant	
A	.i.borjois qui laimetant	
Q	[ui] lisieult fere ses creances	
S	i li mande que.vi.xx.lances	1956
l	i face paindre deses armes	
et	.iii.escuz dont les enarmes	[f. 79 r 1]
S	oient de soie et dorfrois	
et	si prie moutleboriois	1960
Q	en chas[cun]eait.i.penoncel	
I	lle fist et miex et plusbel	
A	ssez quil ne lia mande	
S	i com il lia [con]mande.	1964
Q	ui vit cez atornmenz fere	
	les escuz les lances lafere	
l	es cov[er]tures les penons	

my lord Guillaume had a clerk write
 three letters for him.
 One he sent to his mother,
 telling her how he had 1928
 won the friendship of the emperor.
 To his sister he sent
 a belt and a clasp;
 and along with that, in a coffer, 1932
 three hundred pounds of Conrad's gift
 of money to pay the humble people
 and the burghers to whom he owed money.
 You should know that his mother 1936
 could use it for various expenses,
 and to have her flax fields sown,
 for to keep a proper household
 requires a good many things: 1940
 no one can know unless he has to manage it!
 Guillaume informed his companions
 of his situation and his plans,
 and asked and summoned them by name, 1944
 with God's help
 to ride to Saint-Trond
 to meet him without fail,
 and for each to be as elegant 1948
 and well-fitted-out as he could;
 for, if he lived, it would be worth their while
 to joust there with gaily painted lances.
 The other letters reached their destination; 1952
 he sent them quickly to Liege,
 to a burgher who loved him
 and who was accustomed to advance him money.
 Guillaume asked him to have six score 1956
 of lances painted with his arms,
 and also three shields, whose handles
 should be of silk and orphreys,
 and he directed the burgher 1960
 that each lance should have a pennant.
 The man made them even better
 and handsomer than Guillaume had asked,
 just as he had ordered. 1964
 Whoever saw these preparations made,
 the shields, the lances, the equipment,
 the horses' trappings, the pennants

d	ecendauls et de ciclatons	1968
F	utot bien fet ainz.xv.iors	
et	lemp[er]eres cui seiours	
A	nuia des lors en avant	
p	or laseson chacier avant	1972
et	porla q[ui]nzaine gaster	
p	rist talent daler seiornier	
p	[or] le biau lieu atref sor meuse	
L	enia tost beu saheuse	1976
Q	uil i abons vins adevise	
et	chars tex co[m] len les devise	
V	enoison oisiax de riviere	
et	poisson de mainte maniere	1980
p	lus bel seior nestuet a q[ue]rre	
et	si na quit lieues deterre	
d	iloec iusqau tornoieiment	
C	esachiez bien certainement	1984
p	[or] ce vint il seiornier lors	
Q	[ue] sedex garist le soen cors	
b	ien sachent il quil i vendra	
p	[or] veoir qui miex le fera	1988
S	icom il le pensa si fist	
m	es ie ne sai q[ua]nz iors i mist	
A	venir dela iusqa tre	
b	ien li ont li boriois mostre	1992
Q	[ui]l sont m[ou]t lie de sa venue	
m	[ou]t par fu nez souz bone nue	
Q	[ue] nuls hom nel voit qui ne laint	
m	is sire Guillames et maint	1996
D	e la court et [con]te et baron	
S	i envoient a sainteron	
P	rendre les ostex q[ui] miex miex	
I	la conmande sor lor oils	2000
A	ses vallez et a ses genz	
d	ont il avoit des plus sachanz	
Q	[ue] ch[evalie]rs peust avoir	
Q	uil ne lessent p[or] nul avoir	[f. 79 r 2] 2004
Q	uil nait le mellor dou marchie	
i	llor avoit bien encharchie	
b	ien len avint que si ot il	
Q	es granges devers le cortil	2008
et	es estables dou manoir	
P	orent il sanz faille et por voir	

of damask and silk, would have seen 1968
 them all finished within two weeks.
 The emperor, who had already begun
 to chafe at the long wait,
 to make the time go by more quickly 1972
 and to pass the two weeks,
 decided to go and stay at Maastricht,
 on account of the beauty of the place.
 There they drank themselves poor, 1976
 for there was all the good wine they could wish,
 and meats just as one could want--
 venison, and water-fowl,
 and fish of all kinds. 1980
 A finer place could not be found,
 and it was only eight leagues
 from there to the tournament.
 You may be very sure of this, 1984
 that is why Conrad went to stay there--
 for, may God protect him,
 his men would know that he would go
 to see who would perform the best. 1988
 He did just as he planned,
 but I do not know how many days it took
 to get from there to Maastricht.
 The townsfolk showed Conrad 1992
 how happy they were at his arrival;
 he was surely born under a lucky star,
 for no man ever saw him who did not love him.
 My lord Guillaume and many 1996
 of the court, counts and barons,
 sent off to Saint-Trond
 to get the best lodgings they could.
 Guillaume had the most intelligent 2000
 pages and men in his retinue
 a knight could have,
 and he ordered them by their eyes
 not to fail for any reason 2004
 to get him the best lodgings in town.
 He charged them expressly with this,
 and indeed he got the best,
 for in the granges on the courtyard 2008
 and in the manor-house stables
 there really was room

A	largete et sanz dangier	
E	stre cinq[ua]nte chevalier	2012
t	ot aaise o tot lor harnoes	
I	lloretbien mestier et oes	
Q	[ue] tant en amenra lor sire	
S	e dex de corrouz le tresvire	2016
Q	uil se seiorne a g[ra]nt honor	
A	tref ovoeclemp[er]eor	
E	n biau pales sor la riviere	
p	[ar] biaus dons et par bele chiere	2020
L	i moustre bien quil nel het mie	
I	lli remembre de samie	
Q	ue quil sont amdui a.i.estre	
A	puie aune fenestre	2024
I	uglet vit devant lui ester	
S	ili fet la chancon chanter	
C	ontrel tens que voi frimer.les arbres et blanchoier.mest pris talenz dechanter.si nen eusse mestier.Qamors mefet [con]parer ce qon ques ne soi trichier.Nonques ne poi endurer a avoir faus cuer leg[ier] p[or] ce ai failli aamie-----	
L	ibons guill[ames] ne let mie	2036
S	envoiseure por la soie	
I	l fist dun d[ra]p dor et de soie	
A	u soir covrir son beau p[or]point	
L	emp[er]eor qui nel het point	2040
C	uelle q[ua]nquil puet son covine	
I	a parlui sil ne ladevine	
N	e savra p[or] rien vent ne voie	
D	e son atour iusquil le voie	2044
I	l nest pas reson quil sen vant	
I	l prist [con]gie.i.i.or devant	
Q	[ue] li tornoiement dut estre	
L	emp[er]ere ama tant son estre	2048
Q	a grant paine li a done	
t	ant a fet quil en a mene	
D	e la cort.xxx.ch[evalie]rs	
t	oz a armes et a destriers	2052
m	[ou]t a de travail.i.i.prodom	
A	inz quil venist asainterou	[f. 79 v 1]
E	stoit ia venuz ses harnoes	
L	enli moustre ses escuz loes	2056
c	ov[er]tures lances penons.	

for at least fifty knights to be comfortably housed with all their gear, amply and without difficulty.

In fact they would need all that room,
for their lord would be bringing
that many knights (may God protect him). 2016

He resided in great state
in Maastricht with the emperor,
in fair pavilions by the river.

With fair gifts and affectionate manners
the emperor showed Guillaume his favor,
for he reminded him of his love.

When they were both seated in an embrasure,
 leaning out a window,
 the emperor saw Jouglet before him
 and made him sing this song:

Despite the weather which I see frosting
and whitening the trees, I am seized by a desire to sing;
but it is no use, for Love punishes me because
I never knew how to deceive, nor ever could endure
to have a false, fickle heart. For this I have no beloved.

Good Guillaume did not abandon
his own gaiety because of the emperor's mood:
that evening he had his fine doublet
covered with a cloth of gold and silk.

From the emperor, whose favor he enjoyed, 2040
he concealed his thoughts about the tournament
as much as he could: unless Conrad guessed,
he would never learn anything from Guillaume
about his plans. Until he could see for himself, 2044
there was no reason to boast of his intentions.

Guillaume took his leave a day before
the tournament was to take place;
the emperor loved his company so much
that he let him go reluctantly.

Guillaume brought no fewer than thirty knights
with him from the court,
all provided with arms and chargers: 2052
it's hard work being a nobleman!

Before he reached Saint-Trond,
his gear had already arrived.
They showed him his shields at once,
his horse-cloths, lances, and pennants.

d edeu fet il et de sesnons
 S oit beneoiz qui vos fist fere.
 L igentils boriois debonere 2060
 e rt dou liege venuz ovoec
 v oiant toz ciaus qui sont iloc
 l idit que q[ua]nquil a est soen
 m [ou]t vient ahome de g[ra]nt sen 2064
 Q [ue] fet cortoisie aubesoig
 C h[evalie]r de pres et de loig
 E mplent cez ostelx parleborc
 L isiens estoit en mi.i.forc 2068
 m [ou]t bien seanz entre.ii.rues
 S i q[ue] cil ont doubles veues
 Q [ui] sont ou solier as fenestres
 E l pignon paroît li forz estres 2072
 Q [ui] estoit en mi le marchie
 m aint vilain i otmesmarchie
 Q [ui] musoient a constantin
 u ndiemenche par matin 2076
 V iendre[n]t si [con]pegnon de dole
 I lles bese toz et acole
 et demandent de lor noveles.
 et il dient bones et beles 2080
 t uit sont hetie en vo pais.
 Q [ue] dient que vos est avis
 f ont cil cui il le demanda
 A ura il auques gent dela 2084
 O il a cenx et a milliers
 I l ne remaint bons ch[evalie]rs
 E n p[er]che nen poitou nel maine
 L i quens de champaigne i amaine 2088
 T [re]stout q[ua]nquil puet esmouvoir
 v osne savez mie devoir
 S e francois et flamenc vendront
 N os savons bien quili seront 2092
 t ant avons oi des paroles
 Q [ue] li sires de Ronqeroles
 L i barrois et cil de couci
 et libons alains de roussi 2096
 et cil gauchiers de chastillon
 et uns autres demaulion
 D e ceuz somes tot asseur
 I liurent hier nuit a namur. [f. 79 v 2] 2100

He cried, "May God bless the man
 who had all this done!"
 The noble-hearted, generous burgher 2060
 had come from Liege with all the gear.
 In front of everyone there
 he told Guillaume that all he had was his:
 it's a very wise man 2064
 who behaves courteously at need.
 Knights from near and far
 filled the lodgings in the town.
 Guillaume's was at a crossroads, 2068
 well-situated between two streets,
 so that those who sat in the upstairs
 windows had an excellent view.
 The outer wall had great balconies 2072
 which overhung the busy street.
 Many a churl had been stepped on there,
 gaping at passers-by.
 One Sunday morning Guillaume's party 2076
 arrived there from Dole.
 He kissed them all and embraced them
 and asked what news they had,
 and they answered, "Only good news: 2080
 everyone is well in your country."
 "What did they say? What do you think--
 will people from that area come?"
 Those whom he asked answered, 2084
 "Oh yes, hundreds and thousands:
 not one good knight is left at home
 in Perche, Poitou, or Maine,
 and the count of Champagne is bringing 2088
 as many as he can get to travel."
 "Do you know for certain
 if the French and the Flemish are coming?"
 "We know that they will be here. 2092
 We've all heard this much:
 the lord of Ronquerolles,
 Guillaume of Barres, the lord of Coucy,
 good Alain de Roucy, 2096
 Gaucher de Châtillon,
 and another from Maulion
 (of these we are quite sure),
 slept last night at Namur." 2100

et vos qui fustes a leigni
 d oubo[n] Gautier de joegni
 Q ui dut estre morz porsamie
 O istes vos sil vend[ra] mie? 2104
 o il atornez poriouster
 Q [ue] dex la fet resusciter
 c ertes fet il gen sui m[ou]t liez
 F ont il ne vos en esmaiez 2108
 Q assez en i vient sanz aloigne
 et li q[ue]ns Renaus de boloigne
 I ut anuit amonz enhainaut
 I lenlieve ses mains enhaut 2112
 d elagrant ioie que il a
 d ient ses [con]paignons sil na
 p ardeca g[ra]nt plente de genz
 V os nesloignerez vos sergenz 2116
 p [or] tornoier demie lance
 N os cuidons bien estre a fiance
 d oubon ch[evalie]r de saissoigne
 et dou duc se il na essoine 2120
 et saront le [con]te dauborc
 et le mor garaudel auborc
 et le duc son pere autresi
 et [con]tes ne sai.v.ou.vi. 2124
 et li q[ue]ns de bar cil hautber
 Q [ui] fu filz au [con]te nomper
 d e proece et dehardement
 C il i vendra mout richement 2128
 A g[ra]nt plente de loherenz
 Q ui bien sevent cerchier les renz
 et tuit li baron trusq[ua]u rin
 v os verrez dedenz le matin 2132
 m aint haut home maint belator
 E n cest chastel et ci entor
 et hainuiers et borguegnons
 V ez la ia p[ar] toz cez pignons 2136
 D e cest marchie les escuz pendre
 I l feroit mes hui bon entendre
 A laviande dou disner
 et lessier venir et aler 2140
 Q [ue] ce ne finerahuimes
 d esarmes a parler vos les
 Q [ui]l fet mellor a la viande

"And you, who were in Ligny--
 did you hear whether
 the good Gautier de Joigny, who was supposed
 to be dying for his love, will come?" 2104

"Yes, and ready to joust,
 for God brought him back to life for the purpose!"
 Said Guillaume, "I'm very happy about that."
 His friends said, "Don't worry, 2108
 for many people are coming with all speed,
 and Count Renaut de Boulogne
 slept last night in Mons, in the Hainault."
 Guillaume threw his hands in the air 2112
 for joy at this news.

His companions said, "If there are *
 too many people on your side,
 you won't be able to move even 2116
 half a lance-length away, for all your jousting!"

"We think we can count on
 the good knight of Saxony,
 and on the duke, if nothing prevents him. 2120
 We'll have the count of Dagsburg,
 and the dark Galeran de Limbourg,
 and his father the duke, as well as
 at least five or six counts." 2124

"And the Count of Bar, that noble lord,
 son of a count without equal
 for valor and for bravery?"

"He will come richly equipped, 2128
 with many men from Lorraine
 who all know how to traverse the ranks,
 and all the barons as far as the Rhine.

During the morning you will see 2132
 many a noble man from Burgundy and Hainault
 all with fine equipages,
 arriving at and around this castle.
 You can already see shields hanging 2136
 on all the walls in the market."

Now it would be good to hear
 about the dishes for the dinner,
 and leave off the comings and goings, 2140
 for they won't be finished anytime soon.
 I will let you talk about the arms,
 for I'd rather talk about the food!

c	has[cun]s i a ce quil demande	2144
S	anz soshedier et sanz orer	
d	urement bee a honorer	[f. 80 r 1]
c	iaus quil amena delacort	
et	acole cestui et court	2148
P	uis acestui puis acest autre	
S	eliuns valoit miex de lautre	
S	il fesoit il.c.tanz valoir	
m	[ou]t se set bien asgenz avoir	2152
S	elonc ice q[ue] chas[cun]s ere	
N	est pas deceu lemp[er]ere	
Q	[ui] tel home honore et tient ch[ier]	
A	inz quil levassent dou meng[ier]	2156
V	indrent routes de totes pars	
Q	[ue]n ne cuidoit pas q[ue] li q[ua]rs	
t	rovast entels.iii.bors ostel	
o	nques genz ne furent en tel	2160
c	ome sont cil bon ch[evalie]r	
d	ostex atorer et cerchier	
et	metre hors lez cez goutiers	
C	ez enseignes et cez banieres	2164
p	[or] lor [con]aignons adrecier	
Q	[ui] vont parle borc estraier	
et	huchent en haut li uns lautre	
b	oidin.boidin.Wautre.Wautre	2168
et	tieschant come maufe	
D	ex tant iot lanuit gaste	
E	noutrage et en lech[er]ie	
A	inz que la granz cheval[er]ie	2172
p	eust demi estre ostelee	
I	ougles qui ot la matinee	
D	ormi atref come boriois	
v	int sor.i.palefroi norrois	2176
a	p[re]sle gentil bachelier	
N	eli covint pas demand[er]	
Q	[ua]nt il vint ouborc sonostel	
Q	[ui]l ni ot si riche netel	2180
N	e de ch[evalie]rs ne de genz	
m	[ou]t avoit de hustin laienz	
D	ehyraus de menestereus	
N	esai se deables ou dieus	2184
L	oravoit dit oufet songier	
L	ostel a cel bon ch[evalie]r	

Everyone had what they wanted 2144
 without wishing or even asking.
 Guillaume desperately wanted to honor
 those whom he had brought from court,
 so he embraced this one and then ran 2148
 to that one, then to the next.
 If one had a higher rank than another,
 why, he made him worth a hundred times more: *
 he knew well how to treat people 2152
 according to their standing.
 The emperor was not wrong
 to love and honor this man.
 Before they got up from eating, 2156
 parties came riding from all directions,
 so that you wouldn't have believed a quarter of them
 could have lodged in a town three times as large.
 There were never such busy people 2160
 as these good knights were
 in finding and preparing their lodgings,
 setting out beside the gutterspouts
 their standards and their banners 2164
 to guide their companions
 who were wandering through the town
 shouting for one another:
 "Baudoin! Baudoin!" or "Walter! Walter!" 2168
 and speaking Flemish like devils. *
 God! they spent so much of the night
 in boisterous license
 before half the great chivalry 2172
 could be lodged at all!
 Jouglet, who had slept at Maastricht
 that morning like a burgher,
 came on a Norse palfrey 2176
 in search of the noble young knight.
 He didn't need to ask
 for Guillaume's lodging when he reached the town,
 for there was none so rich 2180
 in either knights or attendants.
 There was a great hullabaloo
 of heralds and of minstrels there--
 I don't know if God or the devil 2184
 had shown them in a vision
 about the lodging of that good knight

Q	[ui] tot despent et abandone	
c	el avoir qui vient de deu done	2188
I	a voir ne li doit estre sez	
c	ar p[ro]dom a en poi assez	
Q	uant jougles montale degre	
o	uil troeve ostel a son gre	[f. 80 r 2] 2192
et	bacheler a sadevise	
Q	[ui] ert en trop bele chemise	
t	oz deffublez empur le cors	
F	ors dun sercot dont li ados	2196
E	rtbendez dorfrois denglet[er]re	
l	en porroit ia assez loig qu[er]re	
A	incois q[ue]n trovast la pareil	
l	a pene ert dun cendal v[er]meil	2200
S	ert trop bel au col h[er]mine	
D	epesnes de boutons doree	
A	voit.i.trop beau chapelet	
a	voi fet il jouglet iouglet	2204
b	ele [con]pegnie est la vostre	
o	rdeissiez ia cist est nostre	
S	e fussiez venuz ovoec moi	
l	e biau sorcot li moustre au doi	2208
Q	uil cuide bien avoir sanz doute.	
Q	[ui] vint ovoec toi?une route	
d	alemanz q[ui] mont mort danui	
I	e muir de faim.ne menja hui	2212
C	aienz.qui me donra a boire	
V	oire deable iouglet voire	
A	lez ovoec voz alemanz	
.i.	paste de.ii.paons manz	2216
F	etlia doner en grant haste	
L	i alers des vespresle haste	
Q	uil sen issent ia qui miex miex	
Q	[ue] tels i a qui ont fet veus	2220
Q	uil ne voelent armes porter	
P	[or] le diemenche honorer	
L	i bers guill[ames] est de ces	
m	ontons alons en fet jugles	2224
Q	[ui] met larcon sor la viele	
l	uez droit i mistrent tant sele	
e	n destriers noirs sors et baucens	
Q	en tret hors a mil et as cens	2228
d	es hostex sorle pavement	

who gave away everything he had.
 What wealth came from God, he gave away; 2188
 nor did he really need it all,
 since a nobleman can soon get more.
 When Jouglet climbed the stairs
 he found lodging to his taste 2192
 and the young knight he was looking for;
 he was wearing a handsome shirt,
 had taken off his cloak
 and wore only a tunic 2196
 banded with English orphreys across the back.
 You could look a long time
 before you would find its equal:
 the lining was of a crimson silk, 2200
 and the neck was furred with ermine.
 He wore a handsome circlet
 of pearls and golden beads: *
 "You here!" he cried, "Jouglet, Jouglet!
 2204
 Fine company you are!
 You could already have been saying, 'This is mine,'
 if you had come with me."
 He pointed to a handsome tunic, 2208
 which Jouglet was sure he would give him.
 "Who traveled with you?" "A troop
 of Germans who almost bored me stiff.
 I'm dying of hunger, I haven't eaten today. 2212
 Is anyone here going to give me a drink?"
 "Really, Jouglet, the devil with you--
 go back to your Germans!"
 Guillaume quickly had a pasty 2216
 of young peacock brought to Jouglet.
 He was in a hurry because of vespers,
 and they went out in a rush;
 some of them had made a vow 2220
 that they would not bear arms that day
 to honor the Sabbath,
 and Lord Guillaume was one of them.
 "Let's mount up and go, then," said Jouglet, 2224
 touching his bow to his vielle.
 At once so many saddles were placed
 on black, and piebald, and bay horses
 being led out by the hundreds 2228
 from the lodgings out to the street:

A ssez senissi belement
 U nsbachelers de normendie
 c hevauchoit la g[ra]nde chaucie 2232
 [c on]menca cestui a chanter
 S ila fist jouglet vieler
 L abele aiglentine.en roial chamb[er]ine
 devant sa dame cousoit une chemise.ainc
 nen sot mot quant bone amor latise.or
 orrez ja.[con]ment labele Aiglentine exploita [f 80 v 1]
 Devant sadame cousoit et si tailloit.Mes
 ne coust mie si com coudre soloit.ele sen
 treoublie si se point en son doit.la soe mere
 mout tost sen apercoit.or orrez ia [con]me[n]t.
 Bele aiglentine deffublez vosorcot.Ie voil
 veoir desoz vostre gent cors.Non ferai dame
 La froidure est lamorz.Or orrez ia.
 bele aiglentine qavez a empirier.Q[ue] sivos
 voi palir et engroissier.Ma douce
 dame ne le vos pui noier.Jeai aimi.i.
 cortois soudoier.le preu henri qui tant fet
 a aproisier.Sonqes mamastes aiez de moi
 pitie.Or orrez i coment.
 Bele aiglentine vos prendra il henris.Ne
 sai voir dame car onqes neli quis.bele
 aiglentine or vos tornez de ci.tot ce
 li dites que ge li mant henri.Sil vos pren
 drai ou vos lera ainsi.Volentiers dame la
 bele respondi.Or orrez ia.
 bele aigl[entine] sest tornee de ci.et est venue d[ro]it
 a lostel henri.li q[ue]ns henris se gisoit en so[n]
 lit.or orrez ja q[ue] la bele li dit.Or orrez ia
 Sire henri velliez vos ou dormez.Iavos re
 quiert aigl[entine] au vis cler.Se la prendrez a
 moullier et a per.oil dit henris.onc ioie noi
 mes tel.Or orrez ia
 Oit le henris m[ou]t ioianz en devint.il fet
 monter ch[evalie]r trusq[a].xx.Sienporta la bele en
 son pais et espousa riche [con]tesse enfist.g[ra]nt
 ioie en a li q[ue]ns henris quant la bele ai
 glentine a.-----

many a knight stepped out elegantly.
 A young knight from Normandy
 who was riding along the high street
 began to sing this tune,
 and had Jouglet fiddle it:

2232

Fair Aiglentine in her royal chamber
 was sewing a shirt before her lady;
 she didn't say a word, true love so silenced her.

Now you'll soon hear how fair Aiglentine managed.
 Before her lady she sewed and cut;
 but she does not sew at all as she usually did;
 her mind wanders, and she pricks her finger.
 Her mother quickly notices this.

Now you'll soon hear how...
 "Fair Aiglentine, unfasten your surcoat;
 I want to see your fair body."
 "I will not, my lady, for the cold is deathly."

Now you'll soon hear...
 "Fair Aiglentine, what's making you suffer,
 that I see you grown so pale and swollen?"
 "My sweet lady, I cannot deny it to you:
 I have loved a courteous hired soldier,
 the valiant Henri, who is so much to be praised.
 If ever you loved me, have pity on me."

Now you'll soon hear how...
 "Fair Aiglentine, will Henri marry you?"
 "Truly, I do not know, lady, for I never asked him."
 "Fair Aiglentine, go now from this place:
 you may tell Henri that I send to know
 if he will take you, or leave you like this."
 "Gladly, lady," the fair one replied.

Now you'll soon hear...
 Fair Aiglentine set out from that place,
 and went straight to Henri's lodging.
 Count Henri was lying in his bed.
 Now you will hear what the fair one told him.

Now you'll soon hear...
 "Lord Henri, are you awake or asleep?
 Aiglentine of the bright face asks if you
 will take her as your wife and companion."
 "Oh yes," he said, "I never heard such joyful news."

Now you'll soon hear...
 Henri heard her, and rejoiced at it.

O	flautes et o vieles	
	p[or] veoir les ioustes noveles	2296
Q	[ue] des senez nest or pas contes	
o	voeprinces et ovoec contes	
d	e maintes div[er]ses manieres	
S	i mist devant lui ses banieres	2300
o	bien.lx.[con]paignons	
d	e g[ra]nt pris et de g[ra]nz renons	
V	eoir sil a nului as chans	
N	onges viviens daleschans	2304
N	efist.i.ior tant de sa main	
C	o[m] il bee a fere demain	
et	dex len prest bone vertu	
L	i biax sercos quil a vestu	2308
S	esclers vis sa clere feture	[f. 80 v 2]
L	i fist orer bone aventure	
A	maintes autres damoiseles	
I	loirent autres noveles	2312
L	ues quil orent passe la porte	
Q	uns bons ch[evalier]s lor aporte	
t	oz mestres dou duc de louvain	
Q	ui venoit tost corant son frain	2316
Q	[ue] nuls nist hors as chans dela	
D	ites nos font il quil i a	
b	iau sire quil nevos anuit	
I	l est feste ou chastel anuit	2320
F	et cil dou bo[n] martir s[aint] Iorge	
E	n.i.g[ra]nt cha[m]p seme tot dorge	
S	e sont luestret a parlement	
I	l ni a que dou belement	2324
A	ler arriere font li conte	
et	cil a cui le plus en monte	
A	tant se sont mis ou retor	
l	i haub[er]c nelibel ator	2328
N	e sont camoissie ne maumis	
l	eremgnant dou ior ont mis	
A	tornoier par lor hostex	
et	les viandes qui sont tex	2332

He had as many as twenty knights mounted,
 and took away the fair one to his country
 and married her, and made a rich countess of her.

And great joy he had of it,
 count Henri, once he had Fair Aiglentine.
 With flutes and with vielles,
 to see the first jousts-- 2296
 for we're not talking about a synod here!--
 with princes and with counts
 of many different degrees,
 Guillaume put his banners before him 2300
 with at least sixty companions
 of great valor and renown, and went
 to see if there was anyone on the fields;
 not even Vivien at Aliscamps 2304
 accomplished so much single-handed in one day
 as Guillaume longed to do the next morning,
 if God lends him good strength!
 The beautiful tunic that he wore, 2308
 and his handsome face and figure,
 made many a noble maiden
 pray for him to have good fortune.
 As soon as they had passed the gate 2312
 they heard something quite different
 which a good knight told them,
 a favorite of the duke of Louvain,
 who came riding fast and reining in hard-- 2316
 that no one should go out to the fields.
 "Tell us why not, fair lord,"
 they said, "if you don't mind."
 "Tonight at the castle it's the feast 2320
 of the good martyr Saint George," he said.
 Into a great field sown with barley
 they quickly withdrew to confer.
 "There's nothing for it but to go back," 2324
 said the counts and Guillaume,
 the one who cared most about it;
 and at that they turned back.
 The hauberks and the beautiful gear 2328
 weren't dented or mistreated yet!
 The rest of the day they did no tourneying
 but in their own lodgings;
 the dishes were those that were proper 2332

c o[m] tens le requiert et sesons
 et doiseaus et de venoisons
 et li vin sont et aspre et cler
 Q [ua]nt vint quil covi[n]t alumer 2336
 l ors sambla que lavile arsis
 L i ostex ou Guill[ames] sist
 c om cil qui fufez a devise
 Q [ue] la clarte qui i fu mise 2340
 S en ist hors p[ar] tantes fenestres
 Q [ue] li g[ra]nz marchiez et li estres
 E n estoit tot enluminez
 E srues devant es costez 2344
 F esoit si cler com endroit tierce
 o n ne verra mes voir a piece
 U n tel hostel a bachelier
 V ieles i sonent si cler 2348
 et fleutes et estrument
 [c on] ni peust mien escient
 o ir damedeu sil tonast
 Q ui que venist ne q[ui] alast 2352
 P ar les ostex sachiez de voir
 C il nese voloit remouvoir
 A inz veut q[ue] chas[cuns] viegne au soen [f. 81 r 1]
 C eli venoit m[ou]t de g[ra]nt sen 2356
 Q [ui]l veut qenvoieie barnage
 E n son hostel et la g[ra]nt rage
 et la g[ra]nt ioie qen i maine
 t uit liduc et tuit li demaine 2360
 Q ui sont asostex ou marchie
 S i ont et beu et ragie
 [c on]ques darmes ni ot paroles
 A inz i sont si g[ra]nz les karoles 2364
 [c on] les oit de p[ar] tot le borc
 L i biax gal[er]ans de lamborc
 Q [ui] ne senvoisa mes pieca
 c este chancon i comenca 2368
 L a ius desouz lolive
 Ne vos repentez mie
 F ontaine i sourt serie puceles carolez
 N evos repentez mie deloiaument amer
 C este na pas.iii.tors dure
 Q [ua]nt li fils le [con]te de tre 2376
 Q ui m[ou]t sen sotbien entremetre

to the time and the season,
 both fowl and venison,
 and the wines were both dry and clear.
 When the time came to light the torches, 2336
 it seemed in the town as though
 Guillaume's lodging was on fire,
 which perfectly suited Guillaume,
 for the light from the lamps 2340
 shone out through so many windows
 that the high street and the balconies
 were all lit up from it.
 In the streets around his inn 2344
 it was as bright as at tierce.
 No one will ever see such a lodging
 for a young knight, for some time to come.
 Vieilles played there so clearly, 2348
 with flutes and other instruments,
 that I am quite sure no one could
 have heard the Lord God Himself thunder.
 No matter who came or went 2352
 from inn to inn, believe me,
 Guillaume did not want to go out,
 but rather wanted everyone to come to him.
 This was very wise of him, 2356
 for he wanted everyone to see the nobility
 in his own lodgings, and the great cheer
 and merriment that went on there.
 All the dukes and noblemen 2360
 who were lodged in the square
 were drinking so much and so raucously
 that they never spoke of arms at all;
 instead the dancing was so noisy 2364
 that it was heard throughout the town.
 The fair Galeran de Limbourg,
 who had never enjoyed himself so much,
 began to sing this song: 2368
 Down there beneath the olive-tree,
 Do not regret at all!
 the fountain springs up clear. Maidens, dance in a circle!
 Do not at all regret loving truly.
 This had not lasted three turns
 when the Count of Maastricht's son, 2376
 who well knew how to go about it,

- [c on]menca ceste chanconete
M auberion sest main levee.dioree.
 buer i vig.a la fontaine est alee.or
 en ai dol Diex diex ordemeure.mau
 berions a leve trop.-----
 U n vallez le conte de los
 Q [ui] de chanter avoit le los
 C hantaapres celui de tre 2388
R enaus et samie chevauche par
 un pre.totenuit chevauche ius
 qau ior cler.Ia navrai mes joie de
 vos amer-----
 E insi senvoient cil genvre home 2392
 N i ot si large cest la some
 C ui ceste feste m[ou]t ne siece
 L i q[ue]ns de bar i fu g[ra]nt piece
 .i. menesterel lempere 2396
 L idit la chancon de son frere
D e renaut de mousson
 et de son frere hugon.
 et de ses [con]paignons 2400
 Q [ui] donent les grans dons
 V eult fere une chanco[n]
 j ordains li viex bordons
 o u tens de moustoisons----- 2404
M out i ot parle de iordain [f. 81 r 2]
 f aud[ra] mes ce iusq[a] demain
 F et.i.tyois ce que sera
 F ont il qui p[re]miers sen ira 2408
 S oit liplus cortois dela route
 A cest mot se dep[ar]ti toute
 c ele g[ra]nt feste et cele noise
 j ames enlieu ou nus daus voise 2412
 N orra parler qen une nuit
 A it en.i.ostel tel deduit
 p uis recovint parl[er] desliz
M [ou]t en iot de bien garniz 2416
 D ebiaus dras et de covertors
 c ilqui en sorent toz les tors
 l es font sanz noise et sanz dangier
 p uis si vont lor segnors couch[ier]
 Q [ua]nt la nuis fu auq[ue]s alee 2420
 A u matin fu lamatinee

began this little song:

Mauberjon got up early; all dressed up,
 most luckily she came. To the fountain she went,
 and now I am grieving: God! God! now Mauberjon
 tarries too long by the water.

A page of the Count of Looz,
 who was well known for his singing,
 sang after the lord of Maastricht: 2388

Renaut and his love are riding in a meadow,
 he rides all night until the bright day.
 I will never again have joy
 in loving you...

In this way did the young men amuse themselves. 2392

There was none so open-handed, all in all,
 that this festivity did not suit him.

The count of Bar was there a long time;
 a minstrel from the Empire 2396
 sang him the song about his brother:

Of Renaut de Mousson
 and his brother Hugh,
 and of his companions 2400
 who made such great gifts,
 I, Jordan the old player,
 want to make a song
 at harvest-time. 2404

There was much talk of this Jordan.

A Fleming asked, "Will this go on
 all night?" "Who can tell?"

they answered. "Let the first one to leave
 be the most courteous of the group." 2408

With these words all the great festivity
 and tumult came to an end.

No matter where anyone may go, 2412
 he will never hear it said that in a night
 there was such entertainment anywhere.

Then it was time to talk of bed:
 many beds were well-provided 2416
 with fair bedclothes and coverlets.

Those who knew what to do
 made them up without noise or difficulty,
 and then went to put their lords to bed 2420
 when the night was nearly spent.

Next morning, the day dawned

c	om en este clere et serie	
et	q[ua]nt lagrant cheval[er]ie	2424
F	ulevee par le chastel	
c	ez lances ou li penoncel	
s	ont atachie par maiestire	
et	cez escuz fist metre en tire	2428
h	ors des fenestres sor larue	
S	i que lavile et la veue	
E	n amenda bien les.iii.pars	
i	l ne monta mie soi q[ua]rs	2432
Q	[ua]nt il dut aler au moustier	
c	ar bien.lx.ch[evalie]r	
A	cesmez de riches [con]rois	
S	ont ovoec sor biaxpalefrois	2436
.ii.	et.ii.avant et encoste	
u	ns valles qui fu fils son oste	
Q	uili baille q[ua]nq[ui]l demande	
v	et apres por doner offrande	2440
et	q[ua]nt il ont oi lamesse	
Q	uns chapelains dune abeesse	
l	ora m[ou]t bel chantee et dite	
E	n lonor de saint esp[er]jite	2444
l	ors sen revindrent as ostex	
A	seschancons font et as keux	
l	ues demand[er] sanz delaier	
v	ins et viande a tornoier	2448
M	[ou]t i ot poi mengie et sis	
Q	[ua]nt cez batailles .v.et.vi.	
S	en issent ia a g[ra]nz tropiax	[f. 81 v. 1]
c	arli hustins et li cembiax	2452
E	rt [con]menciez g[ra]nt piece avoit	
Q	[ua]nt mes sires Guill[ames] voit	
S	es [con]pegnons et samesnie	
Q	[ui] tienent bien une traitie	2456
D	ou marchie et dou pavement	
c	ar por seslances solement	
p	orter sontil vii.xx.vallet	
N	i acelui naît chapelet	2460
A	ssez i ot des autres genz	
M	enesterex et estrumenz	
et	flautes i font g[ra]nt noise	
D	ex li croisse a foi et aoise	2464
S	onorfet chascuns et chascune	

as bright and clear as summer;
 and when the great chivalry 2424
 was assembled by the castle,
 their lances, to which the pennants
 were skillfully attached,
 and their shields were placed in rows 2428
 outside the windows over the street
 so that the town and the view
 were three times more beautiful than before.
 When Guillaume went off to church 2432
 he did not ride with just three companions,
 for at least sixty knights
 on handsome palfreys accompanied him,
 equipped with rich gear, 2436
 two by two before and beside him.
 A boy, who was his host's son,
 and provided Guillaume with whatever he needed,
 followed behind to give the offering. 2440
 When they had heard the mass,
 which a chaplain of the abbess'
 had recited and sung beautifully for them
 in honor of the Holy Ghost, 2444
 they all returned to their lodging.
 They quickly asked the cooks
 and wine-stewards for wines
 and foods suitable for a tournament. *2448
 They had not been sitting and eating long,
 when five or six corps of knights
 went out in great troops,
 for the clash and the combat 2452
 had begun some time ago.
 My lord Guillaume saw with pride
 his companions and entourage,
 who filled a good part 2456
 of the square and the street
 (for to carry his lances alone
 there were seven score pages,
 not one of whom was without a garland). 2460
 Many others were there as well;
 minstrels and instruments
 and flutes made a great commotion.
 "May God bless him and increase 2464
 his honor!" the men and women all cried.

c	il qui lor baillent une et une	
d	ont il i avoit nesai q[ua]nz	
S	i donent a chas[cun] blans ganz	2468
et	corroie fresche et novele	
c	este cortoise fu bele	
et	sen p[ar]lerent mainte gent	
I	l satirierent belement	2472
.ii.	et.ii.tuit li.i.lez lautre	
L	alance painte sor le fautre	
et	ses banieres sont derriere	
et	.iii.destriers dune maniere	2476
C	hascuns covert de cov[er]ture	
c	e sachiez bien dontla feture	
d	esesarmes et li orfrois	
c	ousta.c.s[ols] de coulignois	2480
A	p[re]s vindre[n]t si bel escu	
t	uit cil qui onques ont vescu	
N	envirent nul a tel honor	
c	ar.iii.baron lempereor	2484
l	es portent par les piz en haut	
S	iert chascuns en.i.bliaut	
t	ozdeffublez empur le cors	
S	e ce fust cors sains ou t[re]sors	2488
S	es portoit len m[ou]t richement	
A	tel honor si fetement	
I	stli prodons de son ostel	
A	tornoient navoit tel	2492
p	alefroi co[m] estoit li soens	
Q	uil estoit plus beaus en toz sens	
Q	[ue] ne soit nule noiz negie	
L	a sambue estoit detrenchie	2496
D	e samit v[er]meil iusq[ue]n t[er]re	[f. 81 v 2]
P	lus bele riens nestovoit qu[er]re	
Q	[ue] li blans ert de la rougeur	
c	il qui ein si porchace honor	2500
S	illa ge ne men m[er]veil point	
I	l navoit vestu qun porpoint	
F	ors sa cote a armer desus	
U	n chapelet deflours sanz plus	2504
c	e sachiez qui mout lamenda	
I	l monte si se [con]manda	
A	dieu. qui le destort de honte	
A	g[ra]nt ioie et a g[ra]nt temoute	2508

Those who handed out the lances--
 and there were any number of them--
 gave to each one white gloves 2468
 and stylish new belts:
 this was a handsome courtesy,
 and many people talked about it.
 Guillaume's men lined up beautifully 2472
 two by two, side by side,
 their painted lances on their lance-rests,
 their banners streaming behind them,
 with three chargers all alike-- 2476
 each one, I'll have you know, covered
 with trappings, whose arms
 and orphreys cost at least
 one hundred Cologne coins to make. 2480
 Next came the handsome shields:
 all those who ever lived
 never saw any so noble,
 for three of the emperor's barons 2484
 carried them high on their chests,
 and each wore a bbliaut
 without any cloak covering them.
 If the shields had been holy relics or treasures, 2488
 they would still have been nobly carried.
 Thus magnificently and elegantly
 the noble man left his lodging.
 At the tournament there was no one 2492
 with a horse as fine as his,
 for it was all white,
 whiter than newfallen snow.
 He was covered in crimson samite, 2496
 hanging down to the ground and slit:
 you could not think of a more beautiful thing
 than the white emerging from the red.
 If a man pursues honor in this way 2500
 it doesn't surprise me if he gains it.
 Guillaume was wearing only
 a doublet under his armor,
 a garland of flowers, and nothing more, 2504
 which well became him, you may be sure.
 Guillaume mounted and commended himself
 to God, may He save him from shame!
 With great joy and a great hubbub 2508

S en vet et ses genz apres lui
 L e petit passet dui et dui
 c ome moine a procession
 et iougles chante la chancon 2512
 E ntre lui et aigret de g[ra]me
 L a gieus desoz la raime
 Einsy doit aler qui aime
 c lere i sort la fontaine.ya
 E insy doit al[er] qui bele amie a---
 A inz que ceste chancon faussist
 D ui damoiseil cui m[ou]t bien sist 2520
 N eveu au segnor de dinant
 R e[con]mencent el chief devant
 S or la rive de mer mignotement
 alez.un baut i ot leve mignoz
 sui.alez mignoteme[n]t dui et dui---
 M [ou]t i avoit gent sanz anui 2528
 M onte as soliers et as estres
 S us les portes et as fenestres
 o t dames de g[ra]nt segn[or]ie
 Q [ue]n tote la chastelerie 2532
 N avoit dame bele ne jone
 N eis les damoiseles de done
 I sont venues en charretes
 D autres flors q[ue] de violetes 2536
 I ot chapelez plus demil
 A !dex fet lune q[ui] est cil
 A la cote de mustadole
 C est libiaus Guill[ames] de dole 2540
 F et lautre li bons ch[evalie]rs
 M out le doit am[er] volentiers
 C ele qui de lui est amee
 M [ou]t est dame boneuree 2544
 Q [ui] de si p[ro]dome ale cuer
 C ist a passe graalemuer [f. 82 r 1]
 F ont cil et celes quile voient
 D escuers et des iex le [con]voient 2548
 t ant co[m] la g[ra]nt rue lor dure
 o r oez est[ra]nge aventure
 Q ue dex li croist ades honor
 A tant ez vos lemp[er]eor 2552
 Q [ui] vient ferant des esperons
 et voit la ioie et oit les sons

he and his companions set out,
 walking slowly two by two
 like monks in a procession.
 Jouglet sang this song 2512
 in a duet with Aigret de Grame:
 Down there, beneath the bough,
 that's how one who loves should go,
 clear springs up the fountain, oh!
 That's how the man with a lovely beloved should go.
 Before this song had ended,
 two young men (nephews 2520
 of the lord of Dinant) began another song,
 which suited them well:
 On the banks of the sea, gracefully go!
 A dance was begun. I am handsome;
 Gracefully go, two by two!
 Many pleasant people had gone 2528
 to the upper rooms and balconies;
 at the doors and in the windows
 there were ladies of great nobility,
 for all the young and fair ladies 2532
 of the castle were there--
 *
 even the maidens of Done
 had come there in horse-carts.
 There were a thousand garlands 2536
 of flowers much finer than violets.
 "Ah, God!" said one, "who is the one
 in the mustadole tunic?"
 *
 "That is the fair Guillaume de Dole,
 2540
 the good knight," answered the other.
 "The woman he loves
 must gladly return his love:
 the lady is truly lucky 2544
 who has the heart of such a nobleman!"
 "He far surpasses Graellent Muer,"
 said the men and women who saw him.
 Their hearts and eyes followed him 2548
 the length of the high street.
 Now hear an extraordinary thing:
 how God increased Guillaume's fame;
 behold, the emperor had come, 2552
 with his spurs jingling,
 watching the glee and hearing the sounds

D	es floutes et des vieles	
et	voit que dames et puceles	2556
l	eresgardent delor biaux iex	
M	[ou]t se puet or cist am[er] miex	
F	et il en so[n] cuer q[ue] maint autre	
I	l hurte tant t[ri]ez.i.triez autre	2560
Q	[ui]l li gete les b[ra]z au col	
F	et il Guill[ame] p[ar] saint pol	
b	ien vos estes v[er]s moi celez	
l	ors p[ar] fu il si honorez	2564
Q	[ui]l nest riens qui li soffrainzist	
A	cele g[ra]nt honor sen ist	
D	ela porte lez so[n] segn[or]	
et	q[ua]nt les genz lemp[er]eor	2568
S	ont issues dela champaigne	
et	li haut baron dalemaigne	
l	ors veissiez maint bel [con]roi	
et	maint cheval de g[ra]nt desroi	2572
m	ainte enseigne mainte ban[ier]e	
a	ssez plus dune lieue entiere	
E	nsont tuit li cha[m]p emblae	
V	ers une garde en.i.biau ble	2576
Q	ui estoit biaux et vers et druz	
E	st cil Guill[ames] descenduz	
S	i [con]pegnon et sa mesnie	
C	hascuns a sa lance fchie	2580
et	si sont si bel arrengeiez	
Q	[ue] plus dura de.ii.archiez	
l	i rens de lonc mien escient	
E	n.lx.lieus ou en.c.	2584
V	eissiez destrousser somiers	
et	fraimbaus noviaus et entiers	
p	[ar] t[er]re sor chapes escourre	
et	haub[er]s hors glacier et courre	2588
et	fetices chaues m[ou]t blanches	
l	i un aportent fil a manches	
C	ist i ratachent espaullieres	
et	lor segnor endementieres	[f. 82 r 2] 2592
S	i sentrevont entracointant	
V	os i oissiez dire tant	
W	ilecome et godehere	
et	en.c.lieuz crier qafere	2596
C	engle sorcengle laz aheume	

of the flutes and vielles,
 seeing the ladies and the maidens 2556
 watch Guillaume with their lovely eyes.
 "They could certainly love him more
 than many others," thought Conrad.
 He pushed and pressed until 2560
 he threw his arms around Guillaume's neck,
 crying, "By Saint Paul, Guillaume,
 you were certainly hiding from me!"
 Guillaume was so honored by this 2564
 that he desired nothing else:
 in such great state did he pass through
 the gate at the side of his lord.
 When the emperor's people 2568
 and the noble lords of Germany
 reached the open countryside,
 then you'd have seen many a handsome harness,
 many a noble horse, 2572
 many a standard, many a banner:
 more than a full league
 of meadow blossomed with them.
 Near a look-out, in a fair crop 2576
 of straight, green, beautiful grain,
 did our Guillaume dismount
 with his companions and followers.
 Each one had fixed his lance in the ground, 2580
 and they were so well ordered
 that the rank was more than two bow-shots
 long, I know for certain.
 In sixty or a hundred places 2584
 you would have seen servants unload the packhorses,
 emptying out strong new cases
 onto capes on the ground,
 taking out the hauberks 2588
 and elegant white leggings.
 Some brought thread for sleeves,
 and others attached the shoulder-pieces,
 while in the meantime their lords 2592
 went up to each other with greetings.
 There you would have heard so many
 "Welcomes!" and "Good my lords!" *
 and from a hundred places, calls for armor, 2596
 cinches, straps, and helmet-laces.

a armer mon segnor Guill[ame]
 c e sachiez ot g[ra]nt maiestire
 S i fu biaux ni ot q[ue] redire 2600
 Q uant il ot son heaume lacie
 Na enson mis et drecie
 .I. penon des armes le roi
 L i q[ue]ns de cleve a g[ra]nt desroi 2604
 Q [ui] se hasta dal[er] p[re]miers
 S en vetia a.c.ch[evalie]rs
 A ssambl[er] toz les g[ra]nz galoz
 L emp[er]ere et li q[ue]ns daloz 2608
 A loient cez veoir dela
 l es francois qui venoient ia
 T uit arme serre et rengie
 S ene remaint p[ar] lor pechie 2612
 o u se dex deg[re] ne lor nuist
 A incois q[ue] ce viegne a la nuit
 E rent tuit cil darmes lasse
 Q [ui] a bien fere ont lor pense 2616
 c arli aferes si atorne.
 C il qui na pas la chiere morne
 N ele biau vis talebote
 Q [ua]ntsi [con]pegnon so[n]t monte 2620
 et il en.i.de ses destriers
 c overt et devant et detriers
 D e couv[er]tures ent[er]lines
 o r alons veoir lor covines 2624
 et sest bien resons q[ue] ge les
 d e mes lances et mo[n] harnes
 .xxx.en fist p[re]ndre sanz plus lues
 et met lescu aucol tot noef 2628
 p [ar] la bele guige dorfrois
 l ors sen est issuz demanois
 S i fiert cheval des esp[er]jons
 o tot.lx.conpegnons 2632
 t oz armez les heaumes laciez
 l es penons auvent desploiez
 S en vet vers le tornoieiment
 et hyraut a[pr]es lui tex.c. 2636
 Q [ui]l font am[er]velle esgard[er]
 et tuit dient carlai aler [f. 82 v 1]
 c est Guill[ames] de dole queles
 a flautes et a freteles 2640

Those who armed my lord Guillaume, believe me,
 had great skill: he was so handsome
 that there was nothing to criticize. 2600

When he had laced up his helmet,
 at the top he placed and straightened
 a pennant with the king's arms.
 The count of Cleves, who hurried to go first, 2604
 in a furious charge
 was already galloping off to assemble
 with a hundred knights.

The emperor and the count of Alost 2608
 went to the other side to see
 the French, who were already arriving
 all armed, assembled, and in ranks.

Unless they fail today, 2612
 or God does not will it,
 before dusk they who now thought
 only of performing well

(for the business was only beginning) 2616
 would be heartily weary of fighting.

Guillaume, whose handsome face
 was neither sorrowful nor disfigured,
 when his companions were mounted, 2620

and he on one of his chargers,
 covered both behind and in front
 by whole horse-harness, said,
 "Now let us go see how they are placed; 2624

it makes sense to leave
 some of the lances and gear."

He took thirty right off, no more,
 hanging his brand new shield around his neck 2628
 by its beautiful strap of orphreys.

Then he quickly set out,
 touching his horse with his spurs.
 With all sixty of his companions-- 2632

all armed, with their helmets laced,
 and their pennants waving in the breeze--
 he went toward the tournament,
 with at least a hundred heralds behind him 2636
 so that they were a wonder to behold.

And all said, "Now make way--
 it's Guillaume de Dole, hurrah!"
 With flutes and with pipes 2640

I	ont ein si mene iusqau renc	
I	lgarde si voit.i.flamenc	
Q	[ui] ot por iouster lescu pris	
H	a!dex de tant baron de pris	2644
F	u resgardee cele joustee	**
o	u chief dou renc o sa g[ra]nt route	
I	l a lescu boute dou coute	2648
et	lenarme li saut dou poig	
et	lesse corre desi loig	
c	om il le puet as oils veoir	
o	r sachiez de fi et de voir	2652
Q	[ue] cil le feri durement	
I	lneli ront ne ne desment	
l	e haub[er]c ne le wambison	
A	inz li met parmi le blazon	2656
u	ne toise et fer et fust	
S	e dex en saide ne fust	
b	ien li peust avoir fet plaie	
o	r sachiez bien quil li repaie	2660
.i.	cop qui nest pas dap[re]ntiz	
I	lle fiert haut enmi le pis	
d	ela fort lance qui est painte	
S	i le bouta a cele empainte	2664
Q	[ui]l le porta ius dou destrier	
F	et jugles dole chevalier	
C	est Guill[ames] aporte bos	
et	si [con]pegnon corent lors	2668
t	uit ensamble co[m] estornel	
p	[ar] force m[ou]t fort et isnel	
L	ont outre et fet fiancier	
et	lor sire a pris le destrier	2672
C	elui dou liege le boriois	
C	elui de valecort et dartois	
d	eschargent t[re]stuit sor ces hoes.	
et	cil Guill[ames] remuet loes	2676
A	ciauz t[re]stoz a en[con]trer	
et	fist le cheval tost aler	
M	es ainz quil enait.i.feru	
Q	en sa testiere qen lescu	2680
l	en fierent ne sai.vii.ou.viii.	
i	lne failli mie ce cuit	
A	inza son cop bien emploie	
et	fiert en haut a demi pie	2684

they led him up to the front rank.
 He looked, and saw a Flemish knight
 who had taken up a shield to joust.
 God, how many worthy lords 2644
 were watching the joust that day! *
 ...at the head of his rank with all his band.
 Guillaume adjusted his shield on his arm 2648
 and grasped the strap in his fist,
 and went charging as fast as he could
 as soon as he could see him.
 Believe me when I tell you 2652
 that his opponent struck him hard;
 he didn't break or destroy
 the hauberk or the gambison,
 but he did send a good amount of iron and wood 2656
 right through his shield.
 If God had not helped him,
 he would have been wounded indeed!
 You can be sure that Guillaume paid him back 2660
 with a blow that was not that of a novice:
 he struck him high, full in the chest,
 with his solid painted lance;
 he pushed it hard with such a shock 2664
 that he unseated him from his horse.
 Jouglet cried, "Dole! Knight!
 It is Guillaume the Wood-breaker!" *
 His companions came running 2668
 all together, like a flock of birds.
 With swift and agile strength
 they removed the knight and took him prisoner,
 and their lord took the charger 2672
 for the burgher from Liege.
 The knights from Valecort and Artois
 charged on this scene.
 Guillaume set off again at once 2676
 to take them all on,
 spurring his horse on quickly;
 but before he had hit even one of them,
 seven or eight of them had struck him 2680
 in the helmet or the shield.
 He did not miss, as I judge,
 but rather used his blow well,
 striking high from only six inches away 2684

S	orle nasel tot le p[re]mier	[f. 82 v 2]
Q	a t[er]re le fet trebusch[ier]	
t	ant come lance li dura	
t	ant g[ra]nz cops il i endura	2688
a	incois quil se parlessast prendre	
I	lne le bee mie a rendre	
A	incois envoie a sainteron	
c	hiez son oste tenir prison	2692
et	iouglez en ot le destrier	
M	[ou]t par sont dur a acointier	
L	i [con]pegnon celui Guill[ame]	
t	ant i ot escu et tant heaume	2696
E	mbarre cope et fendu	
Q	[ue] par force i ont retenu	
d	es artisians.v.a cel poindre	
N	us nes puet p[er]cier ne desioindre	2700
S	i se tienent serre et clos	
C	il ch[evalie]r devers alos	
C	il Walencort et cil baillues	
C	il Guill[ames] avoit fet lues	2704
v	iii. ioustes t[re]stotes entires	
S	i que lemp[er]eres ses sires	
L	es avoit totes.viii.veues	
et	sen i ot teuls.vii.eues	2708
o	u il gaaigna.vii.destriers	
I	l setenoit m[ou]t volentiers	
t	ot ades ou cler pardehors	
M	[ou]t q[ue]roit paraument son los	2712
S	i paroît bien a son escu	
S	i la si trave et fendu	
Q	[ui]l nen avoit ovoec la guige	
p	laine paume dentier ce quit ge	2716
Q	[ue] qenli rebailloit.i.autre	
I	l voit venir lance sor fautre	
C	elui le bon michielde harnes	
et	tint lescu p[ar] les enarnes	2720
Q	uil nentent sa la iouste non	
I	l embrace lues le blason	
et	si ra pris lance novele	
et	vet plus tost qune arondele	2724
l	escu devant mis enchantel	
c	il michiex revenoit moutbel	
S	or.i.m[ou]t biau destrier tot ver	

over the noseguard of the first,
 making him crash to the ground
 at the end of his lance.
 How many blows that knight endured 2688
 before he let himself be captured!
 Guillaume didn't want to release him,
 but rather sent him to Saint-Trond
 to give himself up to his host, 2692
 and Jouglet got his charger.
 Guillaume's two companions
 were also difficult to manage!
 They had shattered, struck, and rent 2696
 so many shields and helmets
 that five of the men from Artois
 were captured in from that charge alone.
 No one could separate or penetrate 2700
 the knights from Alost,
 the lords of Walincourt and Bailleul,
 for they closed ranks and kept tightly together.
 Our Guillaume had made 2704
 eight quick charges in a row,
 and his lord the emperor
 had seen all eight of them;
 and seven of them had gone so well 2708
 that he won the seven horses.
 He deliberately kept himself
 constantly in front, out in the open.
 Clearly he was seeking fame and glory, 2712
 as you could tell from his shield:
 it was so split and torn
 that even including the strap, there was less
 than a hand's breadth of it left, I think. 2716
 As someone was giving him another,
 Guillaume saw the good Michel de Harnes coming,
 his lance on the lance-rest,
 holding his shield by its strap, 2720
 thinking of nothing but this joust.
 Guillaume took his shield upon his arm
 and took up a new lance,
 and took off faster than a swallow, 2724
 his shield held slightly at an angle.
 For his part this Michel came charging splendidly
 on a beautiful piebald charger,

Q	[ui] navoit point depoil dyver	2728
M	[ou]t le portoit grant aleure	
C	il michiexle fiert a droiture	
H	aut en lescu p[ar]mi la pene	[f. 83 r 1]
P	[re]sdou col a demie espane	2732
E	n m[ou]t mal lieu soz la forcele	
E	spoir tost en vuidast la sele	
Q	[ua]nt lalance froissa en.ii.	
C	il Guill[ames] len fiert deus	2736
d	une grosse lance poignal	
Q	[ui] ert plus roide dune tinal	
p	[ar] mi lescu sor la poitrine	
A	lui hurte detel ravine	2740
L	i ch[evalie]rs et li chevax	
Q	[ue] les cengles et li poitrax	
R	ompent co[m] une viez lasniere	
S	i quil lemporta par derriere	2744
t	ot droit en estant sor sa sele	
M	[ou]t est ceste aventure bele	
Q	enli torna am[ou]t g[ra]nt force	
D	e guenchir erraument sefforce	2748
t	ant quil tint p[ar] le frain vairon	
S	el dona lors a.i.prison	
d	e la meson lemp[er]eor	
M	[ou]t set bien amis et honor	2752
p	[or]chacier fet li emp[er]eres	
a	un baron qui lez lui ere	
C	ertes rollanz nel valut onq[ue]s	
C	est li rubiz li escharboucles	2756
D	e toz ciauz que orendroit voie	
v	ez com tuit li vuident la voie	
Q	[ue] nus ne puet avant lui vivre	
I	l rendi tot cuite et delivre	2760
C	elui michiel q[ua]nt il lot pris	
p	[or] croistre sonor et son pris	
t	ot sot q[ua]nq[ue] prodom dut fere	
c	hampenois desi g[ra]nt afere	2764
c	om il sont et de si g[ra]nt pris	
et	francois toz les escuz pris	
s	e fierent loes droit en lestor	
A	lemanz de t[ro]p riche ator	2768
et	les genz le duc de saissoigne	
S	anz delai et sanz nule aloigne	

who had no shaggy winter coat, 2728
 and bore down on the knight at great speed.
 This Michel struck Guillaume a blow
 straight on his shield, high up,
 just a short way from the neck-- 2732
 in a bad place, under the collar-bone.
 He might have left the saddle,
 but Michel's lance splintered in two.
 Our Guillaume had struck him back twice 2736
 full on his shield, on the chest,
 with a massive and firmly-held lance
 which was stiffer than a pole.
 Guillaume and his horse 2740
 charged Michel with such ferocity
 that the cinches and chest-piece
 broke like an old leather strap
 and Michel went sailing backward, 2744
 still sitting in his saddle!
 This was a beautiful feat,
 for which Guillaume won great praise.
 He hurried to turn sharply 2748
 until he held the piebald's bridle,
 and gave the horse to prisoner
 on the emperor's side.
 "He surely knows how to pursue 2752
 friends and honor," said the emperor
 to a lord who was beside him.
 "Surely Roland was never his equal,
 for he is the ruby, the diamond 2756
 of everyone we see here.
 See how everyone gives way to him,
 for no one can withstand him."
 When he had captured him, 2760
 Guillaume freed this Michel
 to increase his own honor and renown:
 he knew everything a nobleman should do.
 The Champenois, splendid 2764
 and worthy as they were,
 and the French, their shields in hand,
 threw themselves into the melee.
 The Germans, so richly fitted out, 2768
 and the Duke of Saxony's men
 charged on the other side

S	e refierent de lautre part	
H	e!diex tant granz cops i depart	2772
C	il Guill[ames] entre.ii.routes	
l	a ou cez batailles t[re]stotes	
v	indre[n]t ensamble au poigneiz	
M	[ou]t fu g[ra]nz li abateiz	2776
A	s durs en[con]tres q[ue]il firent	[f. 83 r 2]
A	p[re]ndre ceuz q[ui]i chairent	
S	i ot mainte dure mellee	
l	oh[er]enc tote une valee	2780
v	indrent criant au bar aubar	
I	a par saint nicholas doubar	
Q	[ui] ce ne vit mes ne verra	
L	i q[ue]ns de boloigne qui ra	2784
c	h[evalie]rs de t[ro]p g[ra]nz atours	
o	.vii.vinsenvint en lestor	
Q	[ui] tuit crient as frains as frains	
o	r sachiez que li deerrains	2788
S	amast m[ou]t devant as p[re]miers	
C	il Guill[ames] se tint detriers	
Q	[ui] bien conoist iteuls paroles	
I	l voit celui de ronq[ue]roles	2792
o	edin qui venoit toz p[re]miers	
h	e!dex com est durs ciz mestiers	
et	sont sage cil qui lesloignent	
C	il dui bon ch[evalie]r resoignent	2796
d	esi loig com il sentrevoient	
Q	[ue] les lances froissent et ploient	
D	ont il se sont entreferu	
S	i que chas[cun]s en son escu	2800
E	mporte.i.troncon dune toise	
t	rop feist lanuit que cortoise	
S	el venist qes desassamblast	
Q	ui i fust m[ou]t bien li samblast	2804
Q	[ue] ce fust gieus de charpentiers	
I	lne se lessent pasentiers	
L	esescuz ne les gamboisons	
p	arespaulles et par girons	2808
L	esont derompuz et trenchiez	
C	il cheval lor frains p[ar] lespiez	
S	en vont par les chans estraier	
t	ant peust illoc gaaignier	2812
Q	ui sen seust apenser diex	

without hesitation or delay.
 God, how many blows our Guillaume 2772
 distributed among the enemy knights,
 when the whole group
 came together in the fray!
 There were many who were unhorsed 2776
 in these harsh encounters,
 and there was many a hard fight
 to capture those who had fallen.
 The men of Lorraine came calling the length 2780
 of the valley, "Bar! Bar!"
 Never, by Saint Nicholas, will those who missed
 this ever see such a thing in their lives.
 The Count of Boulogne, who also had 2784
 knights with wonderful armor,
 came with seven score to the battle,
 all of them shouting, "Onward! Onward!"
 You should know that the ones in back 2788
 felt more fortunate than the ones in front;
 our Guillaume held himself back,
 for he knew what those cries meant.
 He saw Eudes de Ronquerolles, 2792
 who was coming first of all.
 Oh, lord, what a hard business theirs is,
 and how wise are those who avoid it!
 These two good knights spurred on their horses *2796
 as soon as they saw each other,
 so that their lances snapped in two
 when the knights clashed,
 and each one had a large piece 2800
 of lance stuck in his shield.
 The night would have done a kindly thing,
 if it had fallen, to separate them.
 To anyone who was there it would have looked 2804
 like a tournament of carpenters:
 they did not leave either the shields
 or the gambisons whole;
 they shredded and tore them 2808
 at the shoulders and the edges.
 Chargers went straying over the field
 with their reins dangling around their legs;
 if anyone had thought of it 2812
 he could have made a killing on them, by God!

l	enne vit puis les macabiex	
G	enz si g[ra]nz cops doner sor heaume	
c	arde lempire et dou roiaume	2816
I	ert venuz toz li orgueuls	
A	pres none li biaux soleuls	
t	reta vespres si bessas lues	
L	ors veissiez a cez harnues	2820
D	etotes parz mener prisons	
M	[ou]t ont gaaignie a fuisons	
d	une part et dautre p[er]du	[f. 83 v 1]
S	i se sont le ior [con]batu	2824
L	i francois a ceuls daval[t]er	
Q	onc ne porent li.i.[con]q[ue]rre	
S	orles autres det[er]re.i.dor	
M	out i honorerent cel ior	2828
a	lemant lor emp[er]eor	
F	rancois i ront m[ou]t fet donor	
A	la segnorie de france	
S	anz maugre sanz male voellance	2832
S	e dep[ar]tirent p[or] la nuit	
S	ico[m] len fet de tel deduit	
l	i un lie li autre dolent	
b	ienset [con]ment est a tel gent	2836
C	il q[ui] a de tel mal geu	
l	emp[er]eres qui ot veu	
l	etornoient dusq[ua]s vesp[re]s	
P	[ar] le [con]seil deses g[ra]nz mestres	2840
S	en p[ar]ti p[or].i.son afere	
S	es hauz cuers li fist la nuit fere	
U	ne honor et une vaillance	
d	ont ses pris monta m[ou]t en france	2844
Q	[ui]l envia ses seneschaus	
D	une part et dautre as chevax	
Q	[ui] portent argent et avoir	
p	[or] fere les gages ravoit	2848
a	t[re]stoz ceuls qui voudrent p[re]ndre	
N	est orrois qui osast emprendre	
Q	[ui] ne vouzist estre ars	
Q	[ue] bien cousta.x.mile mars	2852
et	encor en parole on	
Q	[ua]nt cil haut conte cil baron	
S	en ral[er]ent a lor hosteuls	
S	i batu et si dolereus	2856

Since the time of the Maccabees no one ever saw
 people give such great blows on helmets,
 for the pride of the German empire 2816
 and the French kingdom had gathered there.
 After noons the bright sun
 drew on toward vespers, and then set quickly.
 Then you would have seen prisoners 2820
 being taken away on every side.
 Many won magnificently on one side,
 and lost miserably on the other.
 The French and those from the Low Countries 2824
 fought such an even battle there that day
 that neither side won
 a half a foot of land.
 The Germans did great honor 2828
 to their emperor that day,
 as for their part did the French
 to the aristocracy of France.
 Without resentment, without ill-will 2832
 they separated for the night
 as people do after such sport:
 some were happy, the others chagrined.
 He who has experienced it 2836
 knows how they feel.
 The emperor, who had watched
 the whole tournament until vespers
 on the advice of his counsellors 2840
 went away on a piece of business.
 That night his noble heart made him do
 an honorable and valiant deed
 which much enhanced his reputation in France: 2844
 he sent his seneschals
 around to both sides,
 with packhorses carrying silver and wealth
 to buy back the pledges 2848
 of all those who wanted to accept his offer.
 No king now would dare do this--
 they would all sooner be burned alive,
 for it cost him a good ten thousand marks; 2852
 people are still talking about it.
 When you think of the noble counts and lords
 who went back to their lodgings
 defeated and dejected, 2856

et	prison prive et estrange	
q	ui la nuit se frotent aulange	
c	hascuns un gamboison vestu	
Q	uil orent tot a net p[er]du	2860
et	lor chevax et lor harnues	
C	il q[ui] ot les.iii.escuz nues	
D	e dole qen claime Guill[ame]	
M	[ou]t lor a ch[er] vendu son heaume	2864
M	esil la m[ou]t chier [con]pare	
C	e quil lavoit si honore	
Q	[ui]l enot bien este batuz	
Q	[ua]nt il fu arriere venuz	2868
A	lostel camoissiez et mas	[f. 83 v 2]
l	enle resgarde de.c.pars	
Q	a sainteron not remes ame	
b	oriois ne pucele ne dame	2872
Q	[ui] ne fust venuz a la porte	
p	[or] veoir q[ue] chascuns aporte	
C	il ne raporta se bien no[n]	
Q	[ui]l not qun povre gamboison	2876
Q	uil ot tot done as hireus	
I	l estoit toz desarmez lues	
et	ses armes et ses chevaus	
a	lixandres ne p[er]cevaus	2880
N	orent tant donor en.i.ior	
V	ez la celui au g[ra]nt ator	
Q	[ui] ci passa gehui matin	
F	et lune orvient sor.i.roncin	2884
S	a m[ou]t camoissie bon biau vis	
F	et lautre il mest bien avis	
Q	[ue] cest il vez la sa baniere	
S	olement p[or] sa simple chiere	2888
l	ont nesai q[ua]ntes aame	
m	[ou]t lont belement salue	
t	uit cil et celes qui lesgardent	
I	l samble q[ue] cil hostel ardent	2892
D	es tortiz qen i a espris	
C	il conte cil baron de pris	
D	escendirent p[ar] cez osteuls	
et	lor [con]pegnon ovoec euls	2896
o	tot g[ra]nt plente de p[ri]sons	
Q	[ui] nont plus q[ue] les gamboisons	
D	e harnois ovoec les chemises	

and prisoners local and foreign
 who'd lost their shirts,
 each one wearing only a gambison
 and having lost both their horses 2860
 and all their equipment,
 the knight from Dole whom men call Guillaume,
 who had three new shields,
 had certainly sold them his helmet at a high price! 2864
 But in so honoring his helmet
 he also paid dearly for that honor,
 for he had been well pummeled. *
 When Guillaume returned 2868
 to his lodging, battered and exhausted,
 people were watching him from all sides;
 there was not a soul in Saint-Trond,
 burgher or maiden or lady, 2872
 who had not come to the gate
 to see what each knight had won.
 Guillaume had brought back only his good name:
 he had only a poor doublet, 2876
 since he had given everything to the heralds
 and was completely disarmed,
 without even his armor or his horse.
 Neither Alexander nor Perceval 2880
 ever won such glory in a single day.
 "There, see that one who passed by this morning,
 the one with the beautiful armor,"
 said one girl; "now he's riding an old nag, 2884
 and his handsome face is so bruised."
 Another said, "I really do think
 it's the same one--look, there's his banner!"
 For his honest face alone, 2888
 I don't know how many girls fell in love with him!
 All the men and women who saw him
 greeted him very kindly.
 It seemed that the lodgings were on fire 2892
 with all the torches burning there.
 The counts, the noble barons
 dismounted at their lodgings,
 and their companions with them, 2896
 as well as a great many prisoners
 who had nothing left of their gear
 but their doublets and their shirts.

I	l trov[er]ent les napes mises	2900
et	les bons vins et laviande	
t	ele co[m] chascuns lademande	
c	euz q[ui] afere lont empris	
E	ve chaude i fude g[ra]nt pris	2904
p	[or] laver les camois des cols	
o	uil ont eu de g[ra]nz couls.	
et	p[or] laver les biaux visages	
C	il Guill[ames] li p[re]juz li sages	2908
A	p[re]s le laver sest assis	
et	si [con]pegnon autresi	
Q	[ui] font bele ch[er]ie et si hoste	
Q	[ui] voient seoir a sa coste	2912
a	cel soup[er].xv.p[ri]sons	
d	ont il avro[n]t les raenco[n]s	
S	il ne sont rendu par p[ro]riere	[f. 84 r 1]
M	[ou]t fu de mains ioie maniere	2916
C	ele nuit que cele devant	
t	ote nuit i sont sorvenant	
c	h[evalie]r baron dautre t[er]re	
Q	[ui] lor [con]pegnons viennent q[ue]rre	2920
P	[or] raieubre ou p[or] ostagier	
S	achiez li p[ro]doms a plus ch[er]	
d	e ceuz quil a a samain pris	
Q	[ue] sonor i soit et son pris	2924
c	e sachiez quil les raensist	
O	nq[ue]s prodome riens ne len quist	
d	e ses prisons quil nen feist	
a	u gre de tot le mont en fist	2928
D	e sainteron la matinee	
	m[ou]t fust la chose mal alee	
N	e fust li sens lemp[er]eor	
Q	[ue] tex sen parti a honor	2932
Q	[ui] sen alast m[ou]t povrement	
l	endemain dou tornoiement	
S	eust damedeu renoie	
Q	[ue] boriois i sont malpaie	2936
et	lor osteus raiens et pris	
a	g[ra]nt paine q[ui]erent lor pris	
p	[ro]dome de pais en autre	
et	que volez ne puet estre autre	2940
C	isplez a dure longuement	
a	celui g[ra]nt tornoiement	

They found the tablecloths spread, 2900
 and good wines and food
 just as each one had directed
 those who had seen to it.
 There was much-welcome hot water 2904
 to bathe the bruises on their necks,
 where they had taken such powerful blows,
 and to wash their handsome faces.
 After washing, our Guillaume, 2908
 valorous and wise, seated himself,
 and so did his companions
 who were celebrating, and his hosts,
 who saw fifteen prisoners 2912
 sitting beside him at that dinner
 whose ransoms would be theirs,
 if they were not returned upon entreaty.
 There was much less gaiety 2916
 that night than the previous one:
 all night long knights kept coming by,
 and lords from foreign lands,
 looking for their comrades 2920
 to ransom them or offer surety for them.
 It was worth more to this noble man
 to preserve his honor and renown
 through those whom he had captured, 2924
 than to receive a ransom for them, you may be sure.
 No nobleman who asked him for one
 of his prisoners was refused,
 and everyone was pleased that he did this. 2928
 The next morning at Saint-Trond
 would have gone very badly
 if it had not been for the emperor's wisdom;
 for more than one left with honor 2932
 who would have departed very shabbily
 the morning after the tournament,
 and would have offended God and
 ill-repaid the burghers 2936
 by robbing and looting them.
 Noblemen have a hard task, traveling
 from one place to another in search of glory.
 What do you expect? It cannot be otherwise; 2940
 it's been going on for a long time.
 At that great tournament

E	ssauce m[ou]t son bo[n] renon	
L	emp[er]eres li bons p[ro]dom	2944
c	ombien quil i ait davoit mis	
M	[ou]t en a [con]quis hauz amis	
et	de son regne et de lautrui	
N	e vos avroie conte hui	2948
c	oment chascuns ot exploitie	
p	[ar] biaux dons en bone amistie	
S	edeparti de sesboriois	
C	il Guill[ames] li t[re]s cortois	2952
Q	uil nel seust aut[re]ment fere	
s	i renvoia a son repere	
et	sesgenz et ses[con]pegnons	
R	ichesde gaains et de dons	2956
P	uis est a cort arrier venuz	
A	mainz davoit et bien batuz	
Q	[ui]lnen parti le ior devant	
N	e cuidiez pas q[ue] il sen vant	2960
d	e lonor quil a puis eue	[f. 84 r 2]
G	[ra]ntioie ont fet de sa venue	
t	otes les genz lemp[er]eor	
I	l li refet si grant honor	2964
Q	[ue] neli puet pas estre sez	
c	hose quil li face dassez	
t	ant laime il et tant le tient ch[ier]	
A	umatin sont p[or] chevauchier	2968
m	onte.si sen vont vers couloigne	
N	e veut mes fere plusdaloigne	
Q	[ui]l neli die sa pensee	
Q	[ue] tant estoit la chose alee	2972
Q	[ui]l set bien quil est trop prodom	
S	i set p[ar] ceuls de sameson	
Q	[ui]l est trop haus ho[m] delignage	
S	il navoit fors son vasselage	2976
S	ertil bien dignes dun roiaume	
c	avenez mon segnor Guill[ame]	
F	et il ie voeil a vos parl[er]	
I	llessent la g[ra]nt route al[er]	2980
S	i se sont hors dou chemin tret	
p	ar mout biaux moz li aretret	
d	e paroles.i.biau sarmon.	
F	et il.ja ma dit.i.haus hom	2984
Q	[ue] vos avez une seror	

the emperor, that noble man,
 greatly enhanced his good name; 2944
 no matter how much it cost him,
 he won many noble friends
 both from his own realm and from others.
 I could not tell you in a day 2948
 what each of them did then.
 With good gifts, in good friendship,
 our most courteous Guillaume
 parted from his hosts, 2952
 for he couldn't do it any other way,
 and sent his retinue
 and companions back to Dole
 rich in winnings and gifts. 2956
 Then he went back to court,
 with less wealth and more bruises
 than he had left with the day before. *
 Do not think that he will boast 2960
 of the glory he'd won since then!
 All the emperor's subjects
 rejoiced greatly at his return,
 and Conrad showed Guillaume such honor 2964
 that he could think of no generous act
 that seemed sufficient to Guillaume's merit,
 so much did he love the knight and cherish him.
 In the morning they mounted 2968
 to go riding, and set off towards Cologne.
 Conrad did not want to put off
 telling Guillaume his thoughts any longer,
 for he had seen enough to know 2972
 that Guillaume was a valiant nobleman;
 and he knew from his own entourage
 that Guillaume was a man of the highest lineage;
 for Guillaume's valor alone 2976
 he was worth a kingdom.
 "Come, my lord Guillaume,"
 he said, "I want to talk to you."
 They left the large group, 2980
 and withdrew from the highway.
 With very fair words
 Conrad made him a fair speech:
 he began, "A noble man once told me 2984
 that you have a sister

Q	[ui] bien est dune grant honor	
d	igne se dex li amenoit.	
S	ire fet il lues.sel lavoit	2988
N	uls nen seroit plus liez de moi.	
F	et li rois par lame de moi	
l	en ma dit que el est m[ou]t bele	
et	si est encore pucele.	2992
S	ire certes fet il cest mon.	
d	ites moi coment el anon	
H	a!dex p[or]qa il or cedit	
j	ala il si ou cuer escrit	2996
l	e non q[ui] nen puet issir fors	
S	i a non bele lienors	
c	ertes fet lemp[er]eres frans	
l	amor en est lors plusplesans	3000
Q	[ua]nt il en oit autrui parl[er]	
et	por ce ne losa nomer	
p	[or] doutance de lap[er]coivre.	
I	l na sibele iusq[ua]u toivre	3004
F	et il si a non lienors.	
c	ertes fet lemp[er]eres lors	
j	e noi mes tel non pieca	[f. 84 v 1]
F	et mis sire Guill[ames] ha!	3008
E	n mon pais en a assez	
F	et lemp[er]eres mis pensez	
S	i est a ce mis tierz ior a	
Q	[ue]n ma dit q[ue] vostre suer a	3012
p	lus sens q[ue] nule damoisele	
et	plus beaute et sest pucele	
Q	[ui] m[ou]t embelist pluslafere	
o	r sachiez q[ue] gen voud[ra]i fere	3016
S	e deu plest mamie et mafeme	
et	quele iert et roine et dame	
D	e totes celes de lempire	
N	est gaires ma suer p[or] ce pire	3020
F	et cil se vos lavez gabee	
m	es se dexli a destinee	
o	u autre honor ou autre bien	
j	a ni p[er]dra par beaute rien	3024
N	e par hautece de lignage	
d	ex p[or]verra son mariage	
A	son plesir geni pens rien	
m	es une chose sachiez bien	3028

who is truly worthy of any great honor
 God might confer on her."
 Guillaume quickly answered, "Lord, if it should happen, 2988
 no one would be happier than I."
 Said the king, "Upon my soul,
 I was told that she is very beautiful,
 and that she is still a virgin." 2992
 "Truly, lord," he said, "she certainly is."
 "Tell me what her name is."
 (Oh! God, now why did he say that?
 He's long had written it on his heart, 2996
 that name which cannot leave him!
 Her name is fair Lienor.
 "Truly," the noble emperor thought,
 "love is even sweeter 3000
 when one hears another speak of it."
 For this reason he did not dare to name her,
 for fear that Guillaume would notice something.)
 "There is none so fair from here to the Tiber," 3004
 said Dole, "and her name is Lienor."
 "In truth," the emperor said then,
 "I haven't heard that name in a long time."
 My lord Guillaume said, "No? 3008
 Many women in my country have that name."
 The emperor said, "I began thinking
 of this three days ago,
 when I was told that your sister 3012
 was wiser than any other maiden,
 and more lovely, and that she is still a virgin,
 which makes it all even better.
 I want you to know that I would like, God willing, 3016
 to make her my beloved and my wife,
 and she will be queen and lady
 over all the others in the empire."
 "My sister is none the worse," 3020
 said Guillaume, "for your joke.
 If God has destined her
 for some other honor or good fortune,
 she won't lose it for any lack 3024
 of beauty or nobility of birth.
 God will see to her marriage
 as He pleases; I have no plans for it.
 But you should know this: 3028

S e giere tex q[ue] mes dangiers
 V os peust de riens estre gries
 b ien sachiez quil me greveroit
 Q [ue] vos avez dit orendroit 3032
 U ne chose dont mout poise
 Q [ue] p[or]tant dor co[m] ele poise
 N e porroitil ce sachiez estre.
 P [or] qoi?q[ue] li p[ri]nce et li mestre 3036
 et la hautece de lempire
 S illoent [con]soner ne dire
 I lle tendroient a enfance
 D e la fille le roi de f[ra]nce 3040
 F etes q[ue]rre lemariage
 p [ar] conseil de v[ost]re barnage
 S i lessiez ore lorfenine
 j e laim plus q[ue] tele roine 3044
 A p[ar]le mont nen doutez mie
 c est mesp[er]ance cest ma vie
 c est mes ioiaus cest ma santez
 D elamenor de ses biautez 3048
 S eroit une autre feme liee
 Q [ua]nt ele par est desliee
 t otpar a ele lors passe
 t ot a le roi fet t[re]spense 3052
 D e ce quil endit tant de bien [f. 84 v 2]
 O r sachiez fist il une rien
 Q [ue] ne puet estre q[ue]ne laie
 S ecil q[ui] tot a en manaie 3056
 M e garde de mesaventure
 S i vos dirai en quel mesure
 P [or] vosgeter de souspecon
 Q [ue] li haut prince et li baron 3060
 D el roiaume et de lempire
 M ont proie.c.foiz et fet dire
 P [or] deu q[ue] ge me mariasse
 Q [ue] se ge moroie ou alasse 3064
 o utre mer.en pelerinage
 Q [ui]l eussent demon lignage
 U n roi qui regnast ap[re]s moi
 Q [ue] sil avoient autre roi 3068
 Q [ui] ne fust de lor norreture
 I llor seroit p[ar] aventure
 p lus cruaus q[ue] ge nai este

if you ever cared enough for me
 that my anger could at all grieve you,
 know well that it wounds me
 that you said something just now 3032
 which, I'm sorry to say,
 not even for her weight in gold
 could ever be, you may be very sure."
 "Why not?" "Because your princes and advisors 3036
 and the nobility of the empire
 would consider it childish nonsense
 if they ever heard any murmur of this.
 Have them seek the daughter of the king 3040
 of France in marriage for you,
 as your lords advise you to do,
 and leave this orphan alone.
 I love her more than any queen 3044
 in all the world, do not doubt it.
 She is my hope and my life,
 my gem and my well-being.
 Any other woman would rejoice 3048
 to have the smallest of Lienor's beauties.
 When she uncovers her hair,
 she surpasses them all."
 Guillaume made the king very thoughtful 3052
 by praising his sister so much.
 "You may be sure of one thing," said Conrad,
 "it is impossible that I will not have her,
 if He who has all in His keeping 3056
 protects me from misfortune.
 To allay your suspicions
 I will tell you by what means:
 for the noble princes and the lords 3060
 of the kingdom and the empire
 have begged me a hundred times
 for God's sake to marry,
 so that if I died or went 3064
 on a pilgrimage across the sea,
 they would have a king of my lineage
 to reign after me;
 for if they had another king who was 3068
 not trained in the same way,
 he might perchance be crueler
 to them than I have been.

o rsi ferai lor volente 3072
 p ora[con]plir ceste besoigne
 L ues que n[os] verrons a couloigne
 S i ferai ames chevaliers
 F ere lues droit chartres et bries 3076
 A toz les barons dalemaigne
 Q [ue] hauz nebas nus ni remaigne
 Q au p[re]mier ior q[ue] mais comence
 Q [ui]l soient t[re]stuit a maience 3080
 E n[con]tre moi a p[ar]lement
 S i lor proierai belement
 Q [ui]l me doigne[n]t entraus.i.don
 p ar amors et par guerredon 3084
 G esai bien quil le me donront
 et si tost co[m] il le mavront
 C reante debonement
 I eferai parlor sairement 3088
 E rroment le don [con]fermer
 Q [ui]lnen porront arrier aler
 p uis lor dirai tot mo[n] corage
 Q [ue] ie voeil fere mariage 3092
 d e moi et de vostre seror
 Q [ue] nule nest si de lonor
 d igne por estre emp[er]eriz.
 S ire fet il.v.c.m[er]ciz 3096
 o r voi gebien q[ue] cest a certes
 j ointes ses mains li a offertes
 S idit quil est a toz iors soens [f. 85 r 1]
 Q uila et de cuer et de sens 3100
 l a parole bien devisee
 p uis ont la fin delor iornee
 u see en deduit et enioie
 o nq[ue]s ni entrerent en voie 3104
 A inz senvont amdui chans t[ra]vers
 F et li rois savez vos cest vers
 M out est fous q[ue] que nus die qui
 cuide q[ue] aillors be.car miex aim
 son es[con]dire qautre meust cuer
 done.et maintes gens serf p[or]
 les felons plains de tricherie por ce
 faz lor volente que ge cuit chas
 cuns la voie-----ooooo-----oooo--
 M [ou]t lor greva puis poi la voie

And now I will fulfill their wish! 3072
 To settle this matter,
 as soon as we arrive in Cologne,
 I will have my knights make up at once
 the proper decrees and letters 3076
 for all the lords of Germany,
 so that none, high or low, is missing,
 but all on the first day of May
 will gather together at Mainz 3080
 to meet in council with me.
 I will ask them courteously
 to grant me a boon
 out of love and recognition. 3084
 I know that they will grant it;
 and as soon as they have
 generously conceded it to me,
 I will have them confirm their gift 3088
 at once by an oath,
 so they won't be able to go back on it.
 Then I will tell them my intentions,
 that I want to make a marriage 3092
 between myself and your sister,
 for no other is so worthy
 of the honor of being empress."
 "Lord," said Guillaume, "five hundred thanks: 3096
 now I see that it is really true."
 Guillaume offered Conrad his joined hands
 and said that he was his man forever,
 for he had both in heart and sense 3100
 well explained his meaning.
 They spent the rest of their day
 in pleasant pastimes and amusements.
 They never went back to the road, 3104
 but rode together over the open fields.
 The king asked, "Do you know this song?
 He is a fool, whatever anyone says,
 who thinks that I will entreat another woman,
 for I prefer her refusals
 to another's granting me her heart.
 I serve many people,
 villains full of treachery.
 I do their will because that way I can at least see her.
 The road did not tire them

j	usq[ua] lentree de cologne	3116
u	ns q[ue]ns et li dus de borgoigne	
S	en vont delez lemp[er]eor	
p	[ar] la cite tot por sonor	
M	aint p[ri]nce i ot et maint haut p[er]	3120
l	enfist lues fere ap[re]s soup[er]	
et	les letres et les escriz	
et	sealer en or massiz	
Q	en envoie p[ar]les [con]trees	3124
p	[ar] garcons qui les ont portees	
Q	[ui] sont plus isnel que cheval	
L	i roisa.i.sien seneschal	
Q	[ui] tenoit la terre vers ais	3128
I	l navoit este a cort mes	
p	uis q[ue] cil Guill[ames] i vint	
a	couloigine est a plus de.xx.	
c	h[evalie]rs venuz toz de pris	3132
l	emp[er]eres la m[ou]t repris	
d	e ce quil a fet tel demeure	
S	eneschal fet il atel heure	
E	insi viennent a cort li autre	3136
E	n france ot.i.brocart viautre	
A	u tens lebon roi loeis	
Q	[ui] plus ama cemest avis	
v	enir a cort q[ue] vos ne fetes	3140
m	[ou]t i a paroles retretes	
l	emp[er]ere entregieus et ris	
c	il avoit bien ses moz apris	
Q	[ui] ne sen fet se rire non	3144
Q	[ui]l estoit toz de sa meson	
[c	on]manderres ap[re]s le roi	[f. 85 r 2]
N	us nen prenoit vers lui [con]roi	
N	e de g[ra]nt fet ne de besoigne	3148
l	emp[er]eres fu a cologne	
et	iloec pres a ses chastiaus	
.xv.	iors et li seneschaus	
t	oziors ovoec et sire et mestre	3152
M	[ou]t resgarda la vie et lestre	
d	ou prodome et de son segnor	
Q	ui li porte si grant honor	
Q	[ui]l ne poent sensamble non	3156
E	n champ nenbois ne en meson	
T	oz iors sont ensamble lorvoel	

all the way to Cologne. 3116
 A count and the Duke of Burgundy
 rode through the city
 at the emperor's side, to honor him;
 many princes and noble lords were there. 3120
 Immediately after supper Conrad had
 his letters and his writing done,
 and sealed with heavy gold,
 to be sent throughout his lands 3124
 with the pages who could carry them
 faster than any horse.

Now the king had a seneschal
 who held the land around Aachen, 3128
 and who had been absent from the court
 since Guillaume's arrival there.
 He came to Cologne with over twenty knights,
 all of great merit. 3132

The emperor teased him
 for having stayed away so long:
 "Seneschal," he asked, "does it take
 all seneschals so long to reach court? 3136

In France, in the time of good King Louis,
 there was a certain Bouchard le Veautre,
 who liked to come to court
 more than you do, I believe." 3140

The emperor went on in this way,
 laughing and joking, for a while.
 The seneschal understood the joke,
 for he only laughed-- 3144
 after all, after the king,

he was the lord of the whole household.
 No one would ever interfere with him
 in any matter at all. 3148

The emperor was in Cologne
 and at his castles nearby
 for fifteen days in all, and the seneschal
 was always there, both lord and master. 3152

He carefully watched the life and doings
 of the nobleman and of his lord,
 who conferred such honor on Guillaume
 that all they did they did together; 3156
 in the fields, in the forest, in the house,
 they and their wishes were always together.

- C il qui portoit.i.escucel
 d es armes keu le seneschal 3160
 E n son escu boucle darchal
 E not erroment g[ra]nt envie
 I l fu toz les iors desa vie
 A ssez plus fel q[ue] ne fus keus 3164
 I l estoit ades ovoec eus
 P [or] engignier et por decoivre
 S avoir sil peust apercoivre
 P [or] quil ia si grant amor 3168
 t antles a escoute le ior
 Q [ue] cil parla desa seror
 et quil oi lemp[er]eor
 Q ui li ora bone aventure 3172
 et si li chania la ceinture
 a une qui soe ot este
 Q [ue] quil sont amdue acoste
 A s fenestres vers un vergier 3176
 o uil oient apres mengier
 d es oisillons les chans divers
 l emp[er]ere en fist lues cez vers
 Q uant de la foelle espoissent li vergier 3180
 que lerbe est vert et la rose espanie et
 au matin oi le cha[n]t [con]mencier dou roissig
 nol qui par le bois sescrie.lors ne me sai
 vers amors [con]sellier car onq[ue]s noi dautre
 richece envie.fors q[ue] damors ne riens ne
 men puet fere aie.-----oooo-----oooo---
 la fine amors ne sera sanz torment.que
 losengier en o[n]t corrouz et ire.Ne ge ne
 puis servir a son talent.quele me voelle
 a son servise eslire.je soufferrai les faus
 diz de la gent qui non pooir sanz plus
 fors de mesdire de bone amor ne riens [f. 85 v 1]
 fors li ne me puet geter dire-----oooo-----
 C ez.ii.vers li fist pechiez dire 3196
 Q uil en orent puis g[ra]nt anui
 l i maus en revint par celui
 Q ui lot porchacie et porquis
 F et il dece sui ge toz fis 3200
 Q ue nest pas por chevalerie
 Q uilli porte tel druerie
 C e nest que por sa seror non

He who bore the escutcheon
 of Master Kay the Seneschal 3160
 in his embossed shield
 soon became very jealous.
 In any one day of his life
 he was more treacherous than Kay ever was; 3164
 he stayed with them constantly,
 plotting and scheming
 to see if he could find out
 why they were so fond of each other. 3168
 He eavesdropped on them until
 he finally heard Guillaume mention his sister,
 and he heard the emperor
 wish her good fortune 3172
 and trade his own belt
 for one which had been hers.
 As they were both sitting after dinner
 by a window overlooking an orchard 3176
 where they were listening
 to the songs of the little birds,
 the emperor suddenly spoke these verses:
 When the orchards grow thick with new leaves, 3180
 and grass is green and roses bloom,
 and in the morning I hear the nightingale
 begin his song, calling out over the woods,
 then I don't know how to protect myself from Love,
 for I never desired any other wealth except love,
 and nothing can come to my rescue.
 Noble love will never be without suffering,
 for the slanderers are sick with rage over it.
 Nor can I ever serve her according to her will,
 unless she wants to choose me for her service.
 I will endure the false sayings of people
 who have no power other than to slander noble love,
 and only she can release me from this misery.
 Bad luck made him say these two stanzas, 3196
 for he later had great trouble because of them!
 The evil came from the seneschal
 who had sought it and pursued it;
 he reasoned, "I am quite sure 3200
 that it is not because of chivalry
 that the king is so devoted to him;
 it's only because of his sister."

A	lui que tenoit au felon	3204
I	a ni perdist il nule rien	
I	ldesvast silveist nulbien	
a	voir autrui sil ni partist	
p	ar envie sen departit	3208
d	ovoec euls si vet alostel	
o	nqes lerres ne fu entel	
D	e porpenser que il fera	
N	e com il les departira	3212
o	u par engin ou par boisdie	
i	l porpensa une folie	
o	nq[ue]s nuls hom ne pensa tel	
p	[or] fere traison mortel	3216
S	atorne daler au plessie	
D	e sagent plus dune moitie	
a	il ovoec le roi lessiee	
E	insi se paine par boisdie	3220
et	si i met tot son afere	
i	lfist dire il vet porfere	
E	n son pais une besoigne	
M	es ilrevendra sanz aloigne	3224
et	p[or] deu quil nen poist le roi	
et	quil feist prendre conroi	
D	e ses plais tant quil revenist	
S	oi tierz de [con]pegnons sen ist	3228
d	ouchastel mout priveement	
E	mbesoigniez dun g[ra]nt noient	
C	e fet deables qui le charroie	
i	lvet pensant tote la voie	3232
Q	uil parlera a la pucele	
S	i dira a la damoisele	
.	v.c.saluz depar son frere	
et	q[ue] ses sires lemp[er]ere	3236
l	e rouva p[ar]l[er] a samere	
p	[or] savoir [con]ment il li ere	
et	sele voloit nule rien	[f. 85 v 2]
Q	uil voloit autretant sonbien	3240
c	ome son filz en.i.endroit	
p	[ar] teuls moz ap[re]ndra lues droit	
t	ot lor covine et tot lor estre	
o	uil puet auq[ue]s certains estre	3244
I	l cuide avoir bien exploitie	
D	e.x.iors tote la moitie	

What could it matter to him, the traitor? 3204
 He stood to lose nothing by it!
 But he raged whenever he saw good
 come to anyone unless he had a share in it.
 Out of spite he left them, 3208
 and went to his lodging.
 No villain ever went to such trouble
 to plot what he would do
 and how he would separate them, 3212
 by some ruse or trick.
 He thought up an insane plan--
 no man ever invented one like it;
 in order to do deadly treachery 3216
 he prepared to go to Guillaume's house.
 He left more than half his men
 behind with the king.
 He took great trouble with his plot, 3220
 and put all his ingenuity into it.
 He let it out that he was going to see to
 an important matter in his own country,
 but that he would return quickly, 3224
 and the king should not mind if
 he had his court cases
 seen to, until he returned.
 With two companions he set out 3228
 from the castle in secret.
 Intent on his plot
 (at the urging of the devil),
 he went his way scheming 3232
 how he would speak to the maiden,
 giving her five hundred greetings
 from her brother, and telling her
 that his lord the emperor 3236
 had asked him to speak to her mother
 to learn how she was faring
 and whether she needed anything,
 for he desired her good as much 3240
 as if he were her own son.
 With such words he would quickly learn
 their situation and everything about them.
 Anything he learned there 3244
 he thought he could put to good use.
 Five full days they spent

I mistrent iusqu[au] fort manoir
 o u cele seiornoit por voir 3248
 Q [ui] vaint les autres de beaute
 A usi come li ior destre
 F ont cez diver plain de froidure
 c hevauchie ont g[ra]nt aleure 3252
 t ant quil vindre[n]t p[re]s dou plessie
 I l envoie tot le bessie
 S or.i.roncin rade et movant
 U n de ses escuiers avant 5256
 d ire a la dame quil venoit
 l i vallez vint au plessie droit
 S or le roncin les g[ra]nz galos
 Q [ui] nestoit dolousez ne clos. 3260
 L adame estoit devant la sale
 qui nama onq[ue]s chainse sale
 S i apeloit ses paonez
 E n la court descent li vallez 3264
 S i let son roncin estraier
 I l vet v[er]s li sanz delaier
 c ome cil qui ert p[re]uz et sages
 D ame fet il ge sui messages 3268
 a u seneschal lemp[er]eor
 Q [ui] por vostre filz ferehonor
 V os vient orendroit veoir ci
 F rerela soe g[ra]nt merci 3272
 F et la dame de ce sui lie
 o r tost fet ele a sa mesnie
 A tornez p[ar]la sus cez liz
 l ors veissiez geter tapiz 3276
 S or cez liz et g[ra]nz coutespointes
 A escuciaux beles et cointes
 D e qoi il iot g[ra]nt plente
 l a dame a a son col gete 3280
 .I. g[ra]nt mantel gris a porfil
 D ont latache nest pas de fil
 M es lescarlate en est en paine
 et cil cui ses deables maine 3284
 d escent soi tierz enmi la court [f. 86 r 1]
 l i plus de la mesnie i cort
 E rroment por les chevox p[re]ndre
 l a dame ou il not que rep[re]ndre 3288
 v et en[con]tre tot le biau pas

traveling to the manor-house
 where the lady lived whose beauty 3248
 truly outshone all the others
 just as the days of summer
 surpass the cold days of winter.
 They rode with all speed 3252
 until they had nearly reached the manor;
 the seneschal sent one of his squires
 to ride on ahead *
 on a swift and speedy mount, 3256
 to tell the lady he was arriving.
 The boy went straight to the manor
 at a gallop on his horse,
 which was neither lame nor slow. 3260
 The lady stood before the hall,
 who never loved a dirty robe, *
 and called her peacocks to her.
 The boy dismounted in the courtyard, 3264
 turned his mount loose,
 and went toward her without delay,
 like a wellbred, intelligent youth:
 "Lady," he said, "I am a messenger 3268
 from the emperor's seneschal, who
 for your son's sake does you the honor
 of coming to visit you here today."
 "Brother, I thank him," 3272
 said the lady, "and I am delighted."
 She told her attendants, "Now quickly
 prepare the beds upstairs!"
 Then you would have seen spreads thrown 3276
 on the beds, and a great number
 of great coverlets embroidered
 with the crest, fair and elegant.
 Around her shoulders the lady drew 3280
 a great cloak edged in fur;
 its ties were not made of plain threads,
 and it was lined with scarlet. *
 The one who was led on by the devil 3284
 dismounted with his two cohorts in the courtyard.
 Many of the household came running
 to take their horses.
 The lady, in whom there was nothing to criticize, 3288
 stepped graciously toward them;

E l le salue enelle pas
 et dit que bien soit il venuz
 d ame ie vos aport saluz 3292
 d epar mon segn[or] tot avant
 et puis apres dou miex vaillant
 c hevalier [con]qes portast mere
 S ire beneois soit lemp[er]ere 3296
 et vos et tot q[ua]nq[ua] lui monte
 et damedex le gart de honte
 c om le mellor p[ri]nce de terre
 E l envoie ch[evalie]rs q[ue]rre 3300
 Q [ui] de li partirent ades
 p [or] aler ioer as esches
 E nlavile chiez.i.provoire
 E l ne li offre pas a boire 3304
 Q [ue]l entent quil soit h[er]bergiez
 E n bel ostel qui ert jonchiez
 l e mena p[ar] la main seoir
 d evant.i.lit sor un seoir 3308
 Q en i a fet de coffiniaus
 F etes herb[er]gier cez chevaus
 d ame fet il ce ne puet estre
 Q [ue] tuit li bailli et li mestre 3312
 d e la t[er]re de besencon
 S eront por une g[ra]nt tencon
 L e matin devant moi a plet
 M es gi eusse honte et let 3316
 et sien fusse a cort blasmez
 s ege fusse p[ar] ci passez
 et si ne tornasse caienz
 v [ost]re fils en fust m[ou]lt dolenz 3320
 Q [ui] est li mieudre ho[m] q[ui] puist estre
 I lest toz sires et tozmestre
 D e mon segnor tant a vescu
 M oi et lui portons.i.escu 3324
 et si somes [con]pegnon darmes
 E le plore de ioie o lermes
 et dit q[ue] ca ele mout chier
 S ire car vos plese a meng[ier] 3328
 c ertes dame ie ne porroie
 m es sil vos plesoit ge verroie
 m a damoisele vostre fille [f. 86 r 2]
 c e cuit ge bien.et ou est ele? 3232

she greeted him readily
 and made him welcome.
 "Lady, I bring you greetings 3292
 first of all from my lord,
 and then from the most worthy
 knight a mother ever bore."
 "Lord, blessed be the emperor 3296
 and you, and all that is his.
 May the Lord God guard him from shame,
 the finest prince on earth."
 She sent for the knights 3300
 who had just left the manor
 to go play chess
 in town with a priest.
 She did not offer him anything to drink, 3304
 for she expected him to stay there overnight.
 She led him by the hand
 into a handsome room strewn with rushes
 to sit beside the bed, on a seat 3308
 made from a little chest, saying,
 "Have the horses stabled."
 "Lady," he said, "we cannot,
 for all the bailiffs and overlords 3312
 of the land around Besan Çon
 will appear before me in the morning
 for an important lawsuit.
 But I would have been ashamed 3316
 and blamed at court
 if I had passed this way
 and had not stopped in.
 Your son, who is the best man alive, 3320
 would have been disappointed.
 He is quite the lord and master
 of my own lord by now.
 He and I bear one shield, 3324
 and are dear comrades-in-arms."
 She wept tears of joy
 and said that she was glad of it:
 "Lord, do at least stay to eat." 3328
 "Truly, lady, I cannot;
 but, if it pleased you, I would like
 to see my lady your daughter."
 (I believe it!) "And where is she?" 3332

E n sa chambre o sa pucele.
 et pordeu dont ne vendra ele?
 N enil cesui ge m[ou]t dolente
 N e cuidiez pas q[ue] ge vos mente 3336
 c ertes sire ainz vos di voir
 Q [ue] nuls ho[m] ne la puet veoir
 P uis q[ue] ses freres nest caienz.
 d ame de ce sui ge dolenz 3340
 m esil le mestuet a souffrir
 p [or] v[ost]re amor que ge desir
 a avoir tant co[m] ge vivrai
 D ame douce si vos lerai 3344
 C est mien anel p[ar] druerie.
 l a dame nel refusa mie
 Q [ui]l len tenist a mainz cortoise
 S el le meist en une poise 3348
 S i pesast li ors.v.besanz
 et la pierre en ert m[ou]t vaillanz
 Q [ue] cestoit uns balaiz rubiz
 S ire fet ele g[ra]nz m[er]ciz 3352
 C e sachiez q[ue] ge lai m[ou]t chier
 A inz q[ue]n montast p[or] chevauch[ier]
 l eson cheval qu[en] tint au soeil
 l i ot ele dit a [con]seil 3356
 t ot son estre et son covine
 u ns beaus dons a mout g[ra]nt mecine
 Q [ui]l fet maint mal plet dire et fere
 S ili a conte tot lafaire 3360
 D e la rose desor la cuisse
 I a mes nuls ho[m] qui parl[er] puisse
 N e verra si fete m[er]veille
 c ome de la rose vermelle 3364
 d esor la cuisse blanche et tendre
 I l nest merveille ne soit mendre
 A oir ce nest nule doute
 l a g[ra]nt beaute li descrit tote 3368
 et la maniere de son grant
 M [ou]t en est li lerres en grant
 d etot enq[ue]rre et encerch[ier]
 Q [ua]nt il ni ot mais qempesch[ier] 3372
 Q en peust p[ar] reson savoir
 p [ar] oir dire sanz veoir
 L ors dit a la dame il est tart

"In her chamber, with her attendant."
 "By God, will she not come down?"
 "By no means: I am very sorry.
 Do not think that I am lying to you-- 3336
 truly, sir, I speak the truth;
 no man can see her
 when her brother is away from home."
 "Lady, I am sorry to hear that, 3340
 but I must resign myself.
 Sweet lady, for your love,
 which I wish to enjoy as long as I live,
 I will leave with you 3344
 this ring of mine as a token of my affection."
 The lady did not refuse it, for fear
 he should think her less than courteous.
 If she had put it on a scale 3348
 the gold would have weighed five besants,
 and its stone was very precious,
 for it was a deep red ruby.
 "Lord," said she, "many thanks: 3352
 believe me, I cherish this gift."
 Before he mounted to ride away
 on the horse that was held for him at the door,
 she told him in private 3356
 their situation and everything about them.
 A handsome gift works wonders,
 for it makes people say and do stupid things;
 she even told him the whole story 3360
 about the rose on her daughter's thigh:
 "No man capable of speech
 will ever see such a wonder
 as the crimson rose 3364
 on her tender white thigh.
 There is no wonder so extraordinary
 to hear, of this there is no doubt."
 She described its great beauty to him, 3368
 and its shape and size.
 The scoundrel was very eager
 to question her and find out everything;
 when by questioning alone he had managed 3372
 to find out the whole story
 by hearsay, without seeing anything,
 he then told the lady, "It is late."

l adamelesse si sen part 3376
 et dit quil ert a toz iors soens [f. 86 v 1]
 C hetive vielle hors dou sens
 S imar vit cel ior et cele heure
 o u palefroï noir come meure 3380
 m onta quant il ot pris[con]gie
 D ame fet il or men vois gie
 c o[m] cil qui est a toz iors vostre
 b iau sire a s[saint] pierre lapostre 3384
 v oisiez vos et vo [con]pegnon
 A ussi sen vet com abesoig
 L i traitres lerres murtriers
 C i ap[re]s vient g[ra]nz en[con]briers 3388
 a son hoes et ahoes autrui
 o r feroitbon savoir mes hui
 [c on]ment li bons rois se [con]tint
 Q [ue] que ciz lerres ala et vint 3392
 I lseiorna a ses chastiaus
 A deduit de chiens et doisiaus
 et a plente de chevaliers
 et si ooit mout volentiers 3396
 A son couchier menestereuls
 u npetit un merveilleus
 E n avoient si chamb[er]lenc
 et sert plus tendres dunherenc 3400
 S i lapeloit on cupelin
 I l li notoit chas[cun] matin
 Q uant ge li donai le blanc pelicon.ele a
 mast mout miex le biau tierriion.he!he!
 ge disoie bien.Que la pastorele ne men
 feroit rien-----oooooooo-----
 m out ama li rois le garcon
 d ebraie selve vers oignon 3408
 I vint hues a cele cort
 l emp[er]eres le tint m[ou]t cort
 Q ueli apreist une dance
 Q [ue] firent puceles de france 3412
 A lormel devant tremeilli
 o ulen a maint bon plet basti
 C est vers de bele marguerite
 Q [ui] si bel se paie et aquite 3416
 d ela chanconete novele
 L i fet chanteren laviele

He left her and departed,
 saying that he was her servant forever. 3376
 Wretched old woman, foolish and mad,
 alas that she ever saw that day and hour!
 He mounted a pure black palfrey 3380
 when he had taken his leave of her:
 "Lady," he said, "I leave you now
 and will always be your servant."
 "Fair lord, may Saint Peter the Apostle 3384
 keep you and your companions!"
 So he set off as if in a hurry,
 the treacherous, murderous thief.
 From this visit great harm came 3388
 to him and to others.
 Now it's time to find out
 how the king had been occupying himself.
 While the evil seneschal was coming and going, 3392
 the king stayed in his castle
 hawking and hunting
 with a great many knights.
 He loved to hear minstrels play 3396
 before he went to bed,
 and his chamberlains had
 a wonderful young minstrel with them,
 a very young boy *3400
 whom they called Cupelin.
 Every morning he played for the king,
 Though I gave her my white furred robe,
 she would rather have had handsome Tierriion. 3404
 Alas! Alas! I always said
 that the shepherdess would do nothing for me.
 The king liked the boy very much.
 Hugh also came to the court, 3408
 from Brasseuse, near Ognon.
 The emperor made him
 teach him a dance
 which the maidens in France 3412
 danced under the elm at Trumilly,
 where many a celebration had been held.
 With the vielle he had him sing
 this song about fair Marguerite, 3416
 who performed the new
 little song so well:

- C ele doisseri.ne met en oubli.q[ue] naille
 au cembel.tant abien enli.q[ue] m[ou]t embeli
 legieu soz lormel.En son chief otchapel
 de roses fres novel.face ot fresche coloree
 vairs oils.cler vis.simple et bel.p[or] les au [f. 86 v 2]
 tres fere envie.i porta mai[n]t belioel
- F et chascuns ceste i vet m[ou]t bien
- C eles ne len doivent de rien 3432
- F et li rois sele volez dire
- E insi se [con]tient li bons sire
- t ant queli seneschaus revint
- C ele nuit devant q[ue] cavint 3436
- Q ue cil lerres fu reperiez
- o nq[ue]s navoit este plus liez
- L i bo[n]s rois ne plus enchantez
- p uis q[ue] cil Guill[ames] fu nez 3440
- N ot sibon siecle a nul seior
- A g[ra]nt ioie atendoit leior
- et lassambee de maience
- t ote sa pensee ert en ce 3444
- p [or] son g[ra]nt bien quil i espoire
- I e cuit quilli covendra boivre
- a incois dun m[ou]t amer bevrage
- Q [ui]l na mie de son lignage 3448
- N oient ne sa g[ra]nt segnorie
- I asa bone chevalerie
- N e li avra mestier de rien.
- H a!dex com cizplez avient bien 3452
- Q uant uns ho[m] atent une honor
- Q uil ena tant peine et dolor
- Q apaines i puet il monter
- H a!dex q[ue] cuida [con]quester 3456
- c il qui cest mal li a bracie
- o nc puis le tenz rob[er]t macie
- t ele traison ne fu fete
- Q [ue] que lemp[er]eres sen hete 3460
- et li seneschauls fu venus
- A la court ouil fuveus
- M [ou]t volentiers deses amis
- L i rois la en paroles mis 3464
- A incois quil le puist saluer
- C est dou venir et de laler
- S eneschal fetil ce me samble

The girl from Oissery never neglects to go to festivities; she's so wonderful that she makes the game under the elm-tree even better. On her head she wore a garland of fresh new roses; she had a face fresh and blushing, sparkling eyes, a bright, sweet, lovely face. To make the others envious she wore many fine jewels.

Everyone said, "She's a lovely one!"

"No more than ours here," 3432

said the king, "you must admit." *

In this way the good lord kept himself busy until the seneschal returned to court.

The night before that villain 3436

returned to court, the good king

was happier and more joyful

than he had ever been; and for Guillaume's part, 3440

never since the day he was born

had he enjoyed himself so much anywhere.

He eagerly awaited the day

of the assembly at Mainz; 3444

he thought of nothing else

because of the great good he hoped it would bring him.

But I think that first he will have to drink

a very bitter brew, 3448

for neither his lineage,

nor his noble family,

nor all his knightly abilities

could get him out of it. 3452

Ah, God! it's a fine thing

when a man attains a high honor,

but it gives him such grief and pain

that he can barely rise to it! 3456

God! what did he think to gain,

the one who plotted all this evil? *

Not since the time of Robert Macié

was such treachery carried out.

While the emperor was enjoying himself 3460

the seneschal arrived at court,

where he was gladly

welcomed by his friends.

Before he could even greet Conrad, 3464

the king addressed him:

"It seems to me, seneschal," he said,

"that you've done nothing but come and go."

Q	[ua]nt il furent amdui ensamble	3468
S	ili fet lors.i.p[ar]lement	
D	e p[ar]oles ou il li ment	
p	[or] passes les chievres les chous	
S	achiez quil nestoit mie fous	3472
p	uis li sot bien trere p[ar] loel	
l	aplume seneschaus ge voel	
A	vos parler m[ou]t aloisir	[f. 87 r 1]
S	ire fetil a vo plesir	3476
I	e sui toz p[re]s or i parra	
o	rendroit ia plus ni avra	
d	elaient ne mes aloigne	
d	es autres ch[evalie]rs sesloigne	3480
S	ivont amdui aune loge	
S	eneschaus fetil ialo ge	
Q	[ue] nos nos traions vers maience	
l	a kalende de mai [con]mence	3484
Q	uil mi estuet estre sanz doute	
Q	[ue] la hautece i sera tote	
d	e mon empire en mai ent[ra]nt	
v	os malieez antan moustrant	3488
et	vos et mi autre baron	
m	edisieez tuit abandon	
p	[or] deu q[ue] ge me mariasse	
G	i ai pense une g[ra]nt masse	3492
S	i ai veu en mon afere	
Q	[ue] cest resons et biens a fere	
C	ar ge sui mes bien delaage	
S	eiai eule cuer volage	3496
C	a este enfance et jonece	
o	uafolie ou a parece	
l	e tendroit on desore mes	
u	ne foiz est bien que ge les	3500
m	on vouloir p[or] fere le lor	
S	ire vos dites v[ost]re honor	
et	sachiez ce vos fet dex dire	
S	eli baron de v[ost]re empire	3504
l	e savoient ore devoir	
Q	[ue] vos vouzissiez feme avoir	
I	l nest riens siles feist liez	
E	st si vostre cuers apoiez	3508
a	une feme plus q[ua] autre.	
A	utant com pierre dela bautre	

Once they were together 3468
 the seneschal made his lord a speech
 full of nothing but lies:
 as you know by now, he was no novice
 at bringing cabbages and goats safely home. *3472
 He knew well how to pull the wool
 over the king's eyes. "Seneschal, I wish
 to speak to you at length."
 "Sire," he said, "at your pleasure-- 3476
 I am quite ready." "Here it is, then:
 from now on there will be
 no more stalling or delay."
 They moved away from the other knights 3480
 and went together onto a balcony.
 "Seneschal," said the king, "I want
 for us to go to Mainz.
 The May Day celebrations are coming up 3484
 and I must be there by then,
 for all the nobility of my empire
 will be there at the beginning of May.
 You used to argue with me, 3488
 both you and my other lords,
 telling me frankly that
 for God's sake I should marry.
 I have thought about it a great deal, 3492
 and I have seen that in my situation
 it is right for me to do so,
 for I am more than old enough.
 If my heart was frivolous before, 3496
 that was merely immaturity and youth.
 From now on it would be
 foolishness or laziness instead.
 It is good that at least this once 3500
 I should put aside my wishes for theirs."
 "Lord, you speak honorably; you may be sure
 that God is inspiring you to say this.
 If the lords of your empire 3504
 knew it for a fact
 that you wanted to take a wife,
 nothing would make them happier.
 Does your heart favor 3508
 one woman more than another?"
 "As much as alabaster is worth more

v aut miex q[ue] li q[ua]rriax de rains
 A utant valent les autres mains 3512
 D e celi q[ue] iaim sanz doutance.
 D ont est ele damede france
 o u fille le roi ou sa suer
 a hi!co[m] le gete ore puer 3516
 d ece quil cuide bien savoir
 P [re]ndrez vos i t[er]re ou avoir
 o uamis ice i prent on
 b ien p[re]nt t[er]re et avoir li hom 3520
 Q [ui] la p[re]nt bone et sage et bele [f. 87 r 2]
 et debon lignage et pucele
 d etex nen est il ore gaires
 F et li crueuls li deputaires 3524
 d it li rois ce puet m[ou]t bien estre
 m es q[ua]nt a fete celi nestre
 et il li a toz ses biaux dons
 D one de g[ra]ce porquoi donc 3528
 N est ele ausi digne dun regne
 c o[m] la fille auroi qui regne
 o uen escoce ou en islande.
 l i seneschaus lues li demande 3532
 S il le porroit nul home dire
 c ar q[ua]nt il avra son empire
 A ssamble si le savra lon
 Q [ui] est ele et com el a non. 3536
 p ar foi fet il ce sera mon
 C est la suer a mo[n] [con]pegnon
 d edole lebon chevalier
 Q uile veist a cheval hier 3540
 I l deist bien cist est vassaus.
 c h[evalie]r fetli seneschaus
 E st il trop bons.ci naque dire
 a tout le mellor de lempire 3544
 l e poez mout bien aatir
 N e dacesmer nede vestir
 N e se p[re]nt nule a sa seror
 et se biautez puet a honor 3548
 A idier nulefeme a avoir
 o r sachiez de fi et devoir
 Q [ue] ceste avroit tot de gaaig
 M esil ia autre mehaig 3552
 p[ar] qoi la chose ne puet estre

than stone from the quarries of Reims,
 so much less are all other women worth 3512
 than the one I love, without question."
 "Then is she a lady of France,
 a daughter or a sister of the king?"
 (Ah, how he mocked the king-- 3516
 he was sure he knew already!)
 "Will you gain land by it, or wealth,
 or allies? You would, with her."
 "The man who takes a virtuous, wise, 3520
 and beautiful virgin of good family
 will gain land and wealth enough."
 "There aren't any to be found any more,"
 said the cruel wretch. 3524
 The king said, "That may be true,
 but when God made this one,
 and endowed her freely with all
 His good gifts, then why 3528
 would she not be as worthy of a kingdom
 as the daughter of the king who reigns
 in Scotland or Iceland?" *
 Then the seneschal asked him 3532
 if he could tell him
 who she was and what her name was--
 since, when he had assembled his barons,
 everyone was bound to find out anyway. 3536
 "By my faith," Conrad answered, "that is true:
 she is the sister of my companion,
 the good knight from Dole;
 anyone who saw him on horseback yesterday 3540
 would surely have said, 'now *there's* a knight!'"
 The seneschal said, "He is indeed
 a magnificent knight, I have to admit.
 You can compare him favorably 3544
 to the flower of the empire.
 Neither in dress or in adornment
 does any woman surpass his sister;
 and if beauty can help 3548
 any woman to win honor,
 then you may be sure
 that she would win it all.
 But there is another problem 3552
 which makes this match impossible,

c ar seli prince et li mestre
 d e v[ost]re regne le savoient
 p [or] nule g[ra]nt chose quil voient 3556
 N e seroient il a cemis
 Q [ue] vos qui estes ses amis
 l eussiez a feme na per.
 p [or] qoi?len la tient a nonper 3560
 d e biaute de cors et de vis.
 F et li seneschaus cest avis
 a ciaux qui sont ovoeq[ue]s li.
 F et li rois p[or] lame demi 3564
 S i ne poez nul bien vouloir
 Q [ue]l essoine i puet or avoir
 E l est assez et p[re]luz et sage [f. 87 v 1]
 et sa assez anz et aage 3568
 L ienor la bele orfenine
 Q u[an]q[ue] cist chante ciz define
 Q ui en mal a sentention
 I eni sai barat nochoison 3572
 p [or] qoi gi mete ia respit
 G enelai pas p[or] ce endespit
 S el nest suer au roi denglet[er]re
 I avrai assez avoir et t[er]re 3576
 t ant co[m] iavrai el cors la vie.
 S eneschaus ce vos vient denvie
 o uce vos fet maleurtez
 Q [ue] vos toz iors vos ahurtez 3580
 d outot ala poior partie
 S e lavieez de moi partie
 v os avrieiez fet g[ra]nt pechie.
 t ant la par parole encerchie 3584
 Q [ui]lli a dit par son out[ra]ge
 Q uil aeu son pucelage
 et p[or] ce q[ue] croire la[n] puisse
 d ela rose desor la cuisse 3588
 L ia dit m[ou]lt veraie ensaigne
 L i rois sesbahist et se saigne
 et dit dolanz a chief de piece
 o nq[ue]s mes rois ne p[er]di fierce 3592
 A incois q[ue] ses gieus fust assis
 o r souffrerons la chose ainsi
 Q [ua]nt dex ne veut qautre puisse estre
 G ardez q[ue] son frere son mestre 3596

and if the princes and lords
 of your realm knew it,
 not for all the good they could see in her 3556
 would they ever agree
 for you, who are her suitor,
 to have her as your wife and lady."
 "Why not? She's said to be without equal 3560
 for beauty, in both form and face."
 The seneschal conceded, "That's the opinion
 of those who live with her."
 The king said, "Upon my soul, 3564
 can't you see anything good in it?
 What impediment could there be?
 Lienor, the beautiful orphan,
 is noble and very wise, 3568
 and she's of a suitable age."
 Whatever Conrad proposes
 the seneschal scotches, for he means evil.
 "I know of no fault or reason 3572
 for which I should suspend my plans!
 I do not hold it against her
 that she is not the English king's sister;
 I will have sufficient land 3576
 and wealth for my lifetime.
 Seneschal, it's because of envy,
 or pure ill-nature on your part,
 that you always insist on seeing 3580
 the worst side of everything!
 If you separate us
 you will be doing a great wrong."
 The emperor pressed the man until 3584
 he told him, outrageously,
 that he had taken Lienor's virginity;
 and so that he would be believed,
 he offered as proof positive 3588
 the sign of the rose upon her thigh.
 The king was appalled, and crossed himself,
 and after a moment said sadly,
 "Never before did a king lose his queen 3592
 before the chess game was even set up.
 Now we'll have to endure it,
 since God does not wish it otherwise.
 See to it that her brother, her guardian, 3596

N en sache ia ne vent ne voie
 I e voudrai aler tote voie
 v ers maience demain matin
 S achiez quil se mist au chemin 3600
 E rroment que laube creva
 et q[ue] durement li greva
 c iz iorsa fere g[ra]nt iornee
 d ex fet il com fu ore nee 3604
 d e fort eure la damoisele
 c elui q[ui] ma dit la novele
 D e sa p[er]te et de son damage
 h airai ge mes tot mon aage 3608
 I lna pas.ii.mois et demi
 Q [ui] ne cuidai quil fust ainsi
 Q [ue] de tot ce ne miert il miex
 m [ou]t parhet cil fel autrui bien 3612
 Q [ui] li toli son pucelage [f. 87 v 2]
 m aintes genz i avront damage
 p [ro]chainement sanz nule doute
 L echemin let et la g[ra]nt route 3616
 S i sen vet chans t[ra]vers toz seuls
 M [ou]t dolenz et m[ou]t angoisseus
 t enant samain a son arcon
 d es bons vers mon segnor gasson 3620
 l i sovient q[ui] li font g[ra]nt bien
 Q ue prodorm ne gaaigne rien
 E n fere dole q[ui] riens ne vaut
 u npetit le [con]mence en haut 3624
 I e di que cest g[ra]nz folie dencerchier
 ne desprover ne sa mouliier ne sa
 mie tant come len laveut amer ai[n]z
 sendoit on bien gard[er] dencerch[ier] paria
 lousie ce q[ue] len ni voud[ro]it trover----
 S anz deduit et sanz seiormer 3632
 E rratant quil vint a maience
 G [ra]nt honor et g[ra]nt reverence
 L i port[er]ent li citoien
 N i covint pas saint julien 3636
 A s roiaus p[or] avoir hostel
 Q [ue] chascuns lot si bon et tel
 c omilli plot a sa devise
 l emp[er]ere a m[ou]t en gre prise 3640
 l onor q[ue] ses genz li ont fete

doesn't hear a whisper of this.
 In any case I would still like
 to set out for Mainz tomorrow morning."
 You may be sure that he was on the road 3600
 as soon as dawn broke,
 and that it oppressed him to have to make
 the long journey that day.
 "God!" he said, "that maiden was born 3604
 under an unlucky star!
 As long as I live I will hate
 the one who told me the news
 of her loss and her dishonor. 3608
 Not even ten weeks ago I thought
 that the situation was quite different,
 but that's all over now.
 He must truly hate the good fortune of others, 3612
 the villain who stole her virginity.
 Many people are going to suffer
 for this, without a doubt."
 He left the highway and the great road, 3616
 and went all alone across the fields,
 in great sorrow and misery,
 his hand at his pommel.
 He remembered my lord Gace's 3620
 good verses, and they did him good,
 for a noble man gains nothing
 by useless lamentation.
 He began a little of it out loud: 3624
 I say that it is great folly to test
 or prove one's wife or lover, as long as
 one wants to love her; rather one should keep
 from seeking on account of jealousy
 that which one would not want to find out.
 Without pleasure and without a rest 3632
 he traveled until he reached Mainz;
 the citizens there held him
 in great esteem and reverence.
 Royalty have no need for St. Julian 3636
 to arrange lodging for them;
 each one had lodging as good
 as he could wish, and to his taste.
 The emperor was very pleased 3640
 by the honor the people had shown him,

m es tote la cort se deshete
 d e ce quil ert si desheteiez.
 h a!dex cele g[ra]nt amistiez 3644
 Q [ui]l avoit au bon ch[evalie]r
 N ot encore q[ue] tiez ior hier
 Q uila fete si endurcir
 S il sosast de tant enhardir 3648
 I lli demandast lochoison
 Q [ue]n lui a tant senz et reson
 Q uil i cuidoit m[ou]t el qamor
 L emp[er]eres estoit.i.ior 3652
 E nson pales apoi degent
 I l apela lebiau le gent
 M on segnor Guill[ame] de dole
 C ui nature polist et dole 3656
 d e biaute de sens et de pris
 V enez endit il biaux amis
 E n ce vergier o moi deduire
 m ain a main cui quil doie nuire 3660
 I vont voiant le seneschal [f. 88 r 1]
 I l tasta ason affichal
 S i se [con]menca a sousrire
 F et li emp[er]eres ses sire 3664
 p [ar] la foi q[ue] vos me devez
 o r me dites dont vos riez
 I e me ri dune profetie
 Q [ui] ert m[ou]t par tens averie 3668
 et ce nest mie g[ra]nz m[er]veille
 Q [ue] nule riens que dex ne voelle
 N e doit avenir p[ar] reson
 L autrier avint p[ar] mon renon 3672
 M e mandastes p[ar] vo seel
 o uil avoit paint a cisel
 .i.beau roi desor.i.cheval
 M a suer mendona cest fermal 3676
 et Geli donai cest seel
 S i me dit en riant trop bel
 b iau doz frere orsui ge m[ou]t lie
 Q [ua]nt iai.i.roi de ma mesnie 3680
 F et lemp[er]eres m[ou]t dist bien
 et sachiez ia nen doutez rien
 P [re]s sest ale quel ne dit voir
 I ela cuidai a feme avoir 3684

but the entire court was dismayed
 to find him so disheartened.
 Ah, God! the warm friendship 3644
 which he felt for the good knight
 just three days ago--
 who had made it cool this way?
 If Guillaume had dared 3648
 he would have asked the king the reason,
 for he had such wisdom and good sense
 that he thought it was something other than love.
 One day the emperor stayed in 3652
 in his palace with a few companions.
 He called the fair, noble
 lord Guillaume de Dole,
 whom nature had refined and endowed 3656
 with beauty, wisdom, and worth:
 "Come, fair friend," he said,
 "let's go enjoy ourselves in this orchard."
 Arm in arm, no matter who is irked, 3660
 they went off, in sight of the seneschal.
 Guillaume touched the clasp of his cloak
 and began to smile to himself.
 His lord the emperor said, 3664
 "Now, by the faith you owe me,
 tell me why you're laughing."
 "I'm laughing about a prophecy
 which will come true very soon now-- 3668
 and that is certainly no great wonder,
 for nothing which God wills
 should fail to come about.
 Some time ago, because you had heard of me, 3672
 it happened that you sent me your seal,
 which had etched upon it
 a handsome king painted on horseback.
 My sister gave me this clasp 3676
 and I gave her that seal.
 With a beautiful laugh she said,
 "Fair sweet brother, I am very happy
 now that I have a king in my household." 3680
 The emperor replied, "That was well said,
 and really, you may be sure
 that she very nearly spoke the truth;
 I thought to have her for my wife, 3684

m es orvoi q[ue] pas ne puet estre.
 V os me fesieez h[er]be pestre
 E n fere acroire tel folie
 et sachiez cest g[ra]nt vilonie 3688
 d e gaber une gentil feme.
 l a hautece de cest roiaume
 N e si acordast a nul fuer.
 D ex ne la pas getee puer 3692
 A inz a tot son bon porveu
 E ncor a ele assez eu
 t rusq[ue] ci et bien et honor.
 m out a greve lemp[er]eor 3696
 d ecequil levoit si dolent.
 L a chose vet tot aut[re]ment
 F et il voir q[ue] vos ne cuidiez
 S es pris est m[ou]lt desavanciez 3700
 d e mainte gent qui ont ale
 E ntorli tant quel a fole.
 C oment!dervee et marvoiee!
 E le na pas este liee 3704
 N e bertaudee ne tondue
 D e tant lavoit dex bien veue
 Q [ue]lla la crigne blonde et bele. [f. 88 r2]
 I en sai bien certaine novele 3708
 p ar tel home qui bien la set
 N e sai sil laime ou sil la het
 m es m[ou]lt prise la damoisele
 F ors de tant q[ue]l nest pas pucele. 3712
 v osli metez sor la rage
 S ime vendez vo mariage
 Q ui me honissiez a veue
 et de chose qui nest seue 3716
 a levez blasme ma seror
 S e dex li eust cest honor
 N e destinee ne p[ra]mise
 E le nest de riens si malmise 3720
 E mpiree ne violee
 l a mere deu en soit loee
 Q uel i eust ia point de p[er]te.
 S avez qui fet la chose ap[er]te 3724
 Q [ue]l a sor la cuisse larose
 N onq[ue]s nule si bele chose
 N e fu en rosier nen escu.

but now I see that it cannot be."
 "Then you made a fool out of me
 when you made me believe such lunacy!
 You should know, it is truly unworthy 3688
 to mock a noble lady."
 "The nobility of this realm
 would not have agreed on any terms."
 "But God has not withdrawn his favor from her; 3692
 rather, He has given her all good things!
 So far she still has all her goods
 and her honor intact."
 It greatly grieved the emperor 3696
 to see Guillaume so distraught:
 "Truly, things are not at all
 what you think," said Conrad.
 "She has behaved so badly 3700
 that her reputation has suffered from it,
 according to many around her."
 "What! mad, accursed girl!
 She has not been bound 3704
 or shorn or shaven!
 In fact, God has so favored her
 that she still has her lovely blond hair!" *
 "I know something about her 3708
 from a man who knows it for sure.
 I don't know whether he loves or hates her,
 but he certainly values her--
 except for the fact that she isn't a virgin." 3712
 "You accuse her of madness
 and openly humiliate me
 if you renounce your marriage
 and lay the blame on my sister 3716
 over some phantom accusation.
 If God had either promised her this honor
 or destined it to her,
 she could not have been 3720
 ill-treated, debased, or violated,
 in such a way as to lose it all--
 may God's mother be praised!"
 "Do you know what made the thing clear? 3724
 That she has a rose on her thigh,
 and nothing so beautiful ever existed
 on any rose-bush or shield."

a	cest mot la li rois veincu	3728
S	i se gete li rois de blasme	
M	[ou]t p[re]s sen va quil ne se pasme	
p	[or] la destrece de cest mot	
I	lcuidoit nus nen seust mot	3732
F	ors samere et il solement	
I	l tret sor son chief erroment	
s	on mantel qui estoit toz fres	
s	i vet a son hostel manes	3736
L	emp[er]eres m[ou]t angoisseus	
	sen revint el pales toz seuls	
Q	[ui]lne seset en q[ue]l maniere	
p	arbiau parl[er] ne par proiere	3740
I	lsen peust bel deporter	
I	lli covient a deporter	
Q	[ui]l ni a point de recovrier	
S	il se peust dam[or]s veng[ie]r	3744
I	l ne sen preist sa li non	
Q	[ui] la damoisele au biau non	
l	i fist amer par oir dire	
S	ospirant plorant et plains dire	3748
c	om de traïtor et felon	
S	e plaint es v[er]s de sa chancon.	
P	or quel forfet ne por quel ochoïson	
	mavez amors si de vos esloignie que de	
	vos nai secors ne garison.ne ge ne	[f. 88 v 1]
	truis qui de moi ait pitie.malement	
	ai mon servise emploie [con]qes de vosne	
	me vint se max non.mes or men plaig	
	gie et die q[ue] mort mavez sanz ochoïson---	
o	r sachiez bien q[ue] cil haus hom	3760
C	il emp[er]eres cil haus sire	
P	ensis et dolanz sen [con]sire	
d	e lamor ala damoisele	
Q	[ue]ncor lentient soz lamamele	3764
l	i maus qui nellet rehetier	
et	le doel dou bon ch[evalie]r	
Q	[ui] se debat et fiert ses mains	
h	a!la mort q[ue] ne me prist ains	3768
F	et il q[ue] ce fust avenu	
S	i [con]pegnon sont tuit venu	
E	ntor lui et sa g[ra]nz mesnie	
Q	[ui] mout estoit des[con]seillie	3772

With these words the king defeated Guillaume, 3728
 who no longer blamed him.

Guillaume very nearly fainted
 from the anguish these words caused him;
 he had thought that no one knew about the rose 3732
 except himself and his mother.

Over his head he quickly pulled
 his elegant new cloak,
 and went straight back to his lodging. 3736

The emperor, in great distress,
 went back to his palace all alone,
 for he did not know how on earth,
 no matter who asked or coaxed him, 3740
 he could retain his composure after this.

All he could do was accept the situation
 since there was no remedy for it.

If he could have avenged himself on Love 3744
 he would have let no one else do it,
 for Love had made him love by hearsay
 the maiden with the beautiful name.

Sighing, weeping, and full of chagrin, 3748
 in the verses of his song he complained
 that Love was a traitor and a criminal:

For what misdeed or for what reason, *

Love, have you so banished me from you
 that I receive from you neither help nor cure,
 nor find anyone who has pity on me?

I have wasted my service, for nothing but ill
 ever came to me from you. But now I complain of you,
 and say that you have killed me without reason.

You may be sure that this noble man, *3760
 this emperor, this noble lord,
 brooded pensive and grieving
 over his love for the maiden,

for the pain which would not abate 3764
 still gripped him under his breast,
 and his grief for the good knight *

who was striking himself and beating his hands,
 crying, "Alas! if only death had taken me 3768
 before this ever happened!"

Guillaume's companions all gathered
 around him, and his entire household
 was utterly bewildered, 3772

Q ue chascuns ne set que il face
 I l descire sabele face
 et se claime dol[er]ous las
 v oirement de si haut si bas 3776
 d esore mes le puis biendire
 N us nest si durs sil loist dire
 C ui il nen p[re]list granz pitiez
 L i plus biaux li miex affetiez 3780
 Q [ue] nus nel voit q[ui] trop nel plaigne
 a hi!font ses genz dalemaigne
 d e q[ue]x genz estes dessamblee
 D ex il se muert vez com il bee 3784
 l a bouche come marvoiez
 .i.siens nies q[ui]est reperiez
 d es chans deiouer a cheval
 Q [ue] quil vint la g[ra]nt rue aval 3788
 I l oit en son ostel la noise
 N e cuidiez pas q[ue]il saoise
 E rroment quil i est venuz
 S i tost comil est descenduz 3792
 I l vient devantlui maintenant
 E n autre guise qen riant
 L i demande deson couvine
 I anuls voir sil ne ladevine 3796
 N en sav[ra] p[ar] moi nule rien
 L i vallez sap[er]coit lues bien
 Q [ue] ciert ou dami oudamie
 Q [ue] si prodons ne feist mie 3800
 N e p[or] perte ne por avoir [f. 88 v 2]
 t el doel.oncles dites mevoir
 a vos mande nule novele
 m adame nema damoizele 3804
 a il nul mort de noz amis
 N ies fet il en tel doel ma mis.
 L a vieus la jaianz jaiens.
 p [or] les.v.plaies deu la quieus? 3808
 l ienor lavils bordeliere
 Q [ui] sest trete donor arriere
 et a rebours ciaux en avant
 Q [ui] a moi erent atendant 3812
 F et il lues dites moi [con]ment
 I lli a [con]te lestrement
 [c on]ment el les avoit honiz

for no one knew what to do.
 He clawed at his beautiful face
 and moaned, "Miserable wretch!
 Now I can truly say, 3776
 from so high to be cast down so low!"
 No one is so hard-hearted that he would not
 pity him if he were to hear him,
 this most handsome and capable man; 3780
 no one saw him who did not sincerely pity him.
 "Alas!" cried his people from Germany,
 "what has caused this desperation?
 God, he is dying! See how his mouth 3784
 gapes like a madman's!"
 A relative of Guillaume's, who was returning *
 from games on horseback in the fields,
 heard the noise from Guillaume's lodging 3788
 as soon as he turned down the high street.
 Do not imagine that he tarried:
 as soon as he reached there,
 and as soon as he dismounted, 3792
 he went to Guillaume at once,
 and with a grave look
 asked him what was wrong.
 "No one shall learn about it from me, 3796
 unless he guesses it."
 The boy understood at once
 that the problem was with a friend or lover,
 for such a nobleman would never have been 3800
 so distraught over a loss *
 of money. "Uncle, tell me truly:
 has your lady mother or your sister
 sent word to you? 3804
 Has one of our friends died?"
 "No," he answered, "the wretch, the slut,
 the whore has caused me this grief!"
 "By God's five wounds, *what* whore?" 3808
 "Lienor, the miserable whore,
 who has turned her back on all honor,
 and turned away those future honors
 which were to have been mine!" 3812
 His nephew said quickly, "Tell me how."
 Guillaume told him the whole story
 of how she had shamed them:

E	le dut estre emp[er]eriz	3816
l	ep[re]mier ior de mai ent[ra]nt	
t	ot lafere li va moust[ra]nt	
c	oment ses sires lemp[er]ere	
p	[or] labeaute qui en li ere	3820
L	a devoit avoir a moullier	
S	a dolor li fesoit moullier	
d	es lermes dou cuer son visage	
S	i a perdu son pucelage	3824
d	ont ciz g[ra]nz doels ou cuer me maint	
C	iz mariages ne remaint	
S	olement q[ue] por ceste chose.	
C	oment le sot il?par la rose	3828
Q	[ui]l me dit quel a sor la cuisse	
S	i ne sai [con]ment ge men puisse	
F	et il veng[er] sen plorant non.	
o	ncles ci a grant ochoison	3832
p	[ar] qoi len ladoit bien destruire	
S	el ne se haste quele muire	
I	e locirrai a mes.ii.mains	
F	emes getent ades dou mains	3836
p	[or] fere honte a lor amis	
p	uis que deables si est mis	
N	eli chaut de chose que face	
N	il nest chose quele tant hace	3840
c	om honor [con]tre son vouloir	
V	osi poez g[ra]nt honte avoir	
Q	[ua]nt vos lavez si en gros pris	
s	i p[ro]dom et de si haut pris	3844
c	om vos estes nen deust onq[ue]s	
F	ere samblant biaux gentils oncles	
N	e fetes dun damage.ii.	[f. 89 r 1]
Q	[ue] diroit on biau sire diex	3848
S	e vos morieez p[or] itel oevre	
o	r fet ele bien qui se proeve	
c	ome vils et [con]me rais	
S	essornons par est bien sievis	3852
Q	[ue] gen ai g[ra]nt honte dou dire	
I	e men vois p[or] vos geter dire	
et	p[or] amend[er] ceste honte	
I	l vint auroncin et tost monte	3856
S	anz plus reprendre la parole	
t	ot le chemin sen vet versdole	

she was to have been the empress 3816
 on the first day of the coming May;
 he described the whole business to his nephew,
 how his lord the emperor,
 on account of Lienor's beauty, 3820
 was to have taken her as his wife.
 Heartfelt sorrow made his face
 wet with hot tears.

"She has lost her virginity, 3824
 which is why this sadness assails my heart!
 The marriage has been canceled
 for this reason alone."

"How can he be so sure about it?" "By the rose 3828
 which he told me she has on her thigh.
 I do not know how I can avenge myself,"
 he said, "except by weeping."

"Uncle, this is a serious matter, 3832
 for which she must be killed.

If she herself does not hasten to die,
 I'll kill her myself with my own two hands.
 Women always manage to make a bad move 3836
 to bring shame on their friends.

Since the devil's mixed up in it
 she doesn't care what she does,
 nor is there anything she hates so much 3840
 as an honor bestowed on her against her will.

Great shame can come to you from it,
 because you held her in such esteem:
 a man as noble and as worthy 3844

as you are should never have to dissemble
 over such a thing. Fair noble uncle,
 do not make of one misfortune two!
 Good God, what would people say 3848
 if you were to die over such a thing?

Her behavior certainly proves her
 a wretch and a harlot:
 her surname has certainly come true, *3852
 for I am ashamed to speak it!

I am going to relieve your rage
 and to remedy this shame."

He reached his horse and quickly mounted 3856
 without saying another word.
 He took the road straight toward Dole,

- I riez de loncle qalessie
 D ont il fera m[ou]t au plessie 3860
 G [ra]nt doel q[ua]nt il i ert venuz
 Q [ue] plorant est deluis issuz
 N onq[ue]s ne [con]manda a deu
 l i nies loncle nil le neveu 3864
 C il sen vetli oncles remaint
 li emp[er]eres et autre maint
 l aloit visiter m[ou]t sovent
 S i ioel et sibel p[re]sent 3868
 S achiez bien nierent pas oiseus
 c has[cun] ior une foiz ou.ii.
 E nvoioit savoir quil fesoit
 S achiez m[ou]t li embelissoit 3872
 Q [ua]nt len len dit bone novele.
 u n ior li sorvint de la bele
 Q [ui] porte le sorno[n] de dole
 Q [ue] illooit tant par parole 3876
 o nques ne la virent si oeil
 d es bons v[er]s celui de sabloeil
 m on segnor Renaut li sovint
 d e g[ra]nt cortoisie li vint 3880
 Q uil les [con]menca a chant[er]
 p[or] sa dolor re[con]forter
 I a de chanter en ma vie ne q[ui]ler
 mes avoir corage.ainz voeil miex 3884
 qamors mocie por fere son grant
 domage car james si finement
 mert amee ne servie.p[or] cen chasti
 tote gent.qel ma mort et li t[ra]lie----o-
 Las iai dit p[ar] ma folie ce sai de
 voir g[ra]nt outrage.mes a mo[n] cuer
 prist envie destre legier et volage.a!da
 me si men repent.mes cil a tart
 merci crie qui atent tant q[ue] il pent.p[or] [f. 89 r 2]
 ce ai la mort deservie-----ooooooooo-----
 E ncor len ert li feus el cors
 ha!fetil bele lienors 3900
 c om ma trai li seneschaus
 t ouz li pechiez et toz li maus
 E st de vos et de vostre frere
 o r sachiez que li emp[er]ere 3904
 l a desirast mout aavoir

angry for his uncle's sake, whom he left behind,
 and on whose behalf he would cause great grief 3860
 at the manor once he arrived there;
 weeping he rode out through the gate
 without even commending his uncle to God,
 nor did the uncle the nephew. 3864

He went away, and his uncle remained.
 The emperor and many others
 went to visit him often.
 Their jewels and their kind gifts, 3868
 you can be sure, were not lacking.

Each day, once or twice,
 Conrad sent for news of what Guillaume was doing;
 believe me, it gave him great pleasure 3872
 whenever they brought good news of the knight.
 One day Conrad remembered the beautiful lady
 who bore the surname of Dole,
 whom he praised so much in speech; 3876
 he had never set eyes on her.

He recalled the good verses
 of my lord Renaut of Sablé;
 out of his great courtesy 3880
 he began to sing them
 to ease his sorrow:

Never again in my life *
 will I seek the courage to sing;
 indeed I would rather Love killed me
 so that she would suffer from it; for never again
 will she be loved or served so nobly. So I warn
 everyone, that she has slain me and betrayed herself.

Alas! in my madness I spoke great folly,
 I know I did; but my heart took a notion
 to be fickle and changeable.
 Ah! Lady, I repent of it, but the one who waits
 until he's hanged cries out for mercy too late,
 and for this reason I have deserved death.

He was still on fire for her.
 "Ah!" he said, "lovely Lienor, 3900
 how the seneschal betrayed me!
 All the evil and all the pain
 comes from you and your brother."
 I want you to know that the emperor 3904
 would still have loved to have her,

m	es or ne lose mes voloir	
Q	[ui]l set bien que ne porroit estre	
A	!dex tant val et tant haut tertre	3908
C	il passa qui va au plessie	
t	ant a son roncín angoissie	
et	erre par nuit et par ior	
Q	uil est la venuz sanz seior	3912
et	est en la cort descenduz	
u	ns vallez i est lors couruz	
Q	[ui] mout est liez de sa venue	
I	l a trete lespee nue	3916
et	sen vet g[ra]nt pas vers la sale	
D	ex doint qau[cun]s en[con]tre saille	
Q	uil ne face [con]me desvez	
I	l sest sor le sueil escriez	3920
O	u est la iaiaus la mautriz	
Q	[ui] fust dame et emp[er]eriz	
S	esa ribaudie ne fust	
I	l sest abuissiez a.i.fust	3924
S	i quil chai o tot sespee	
u	n serjans qui ot espæe	
u	ne iante entre.ii.mallars	
Q	[ui] niert ne foibles ne coars	3928
L	i vient erroment si lebrace	
o	rna il pooir q[ue]il face	
t	[ro]p g[ra]nt mal se nest de parole	
.i.	autres li saut si lacole	3932
S	i le tienent amdui m[ou]t cort	
S	antain erroument i acort	
m	outesbahie et esmarrie	
d	isant dame sainte marie	3936
v	ostre biaux filz soit hui onos	
v	ielle male honte aiez vos	
v	os deussiez estre lardee	
F	et il si mal lavez gardee.	3940
b	iaus nies fet ele p[or] deu qui?	
C	eli voir q[ue] iocirrai hui!	
A	mes.ii.mains se ge la truis	[f. 89 v 1]
I	l sadrece a force v[er]s luis	3944
D	e la chambre p[or] enz entrer	
S	a cousine loi crier	
E	le oeuvre luis et si saut fors	
A	hy!desloiaus lienors	3948

but now he no longer dared to desire it,
for he knew well that it could not be.

God! what valleys and what high hills 3908

Guillaume's nephew passed on his way
to the manor! He pressed his mount hard
and traveled night and day
without a rest until he reached the place, 3912
and dismounted in the courtyard.

A page ran up to him,
very glad of his arrival,
but Guillaume's nephew only drew his naked sword 3916
and strode away to the hall.

May God let someone intercept him,
so that he doesn't act like a madman!
At the threshold he shouted, 3920

"Where is the slut, the harlot,
who would have been lady and empress
but for her own lechery?"

Just then he tripped over a piece of wood 3924
and went sprawling, sword and all. *

A servant, who had spitted
a goose between two ducks,
who was neither a weakling nor a coward, 3928
rushed at him, and held his arms.

Now the boy had no power to do
any great harm, except with words.
Another leaped on him and gripped him, 3932
and the two held him tightly.

His great-aunt came out at once,
deeply shocked and shaken,
crying, "Mother Mary, 3936

may your fair son help us this day!"
"Old woman, you should be ashamed!
You should be run through the body,"
he cried, "for guarding her so poorly!" 3940

"Fair nephew," she cried, "for God's sake, *who*?"

"The one I shall kill today
with my own two hands, if I find her!"
He pulled his way right to the door 3944

of her chamber, to go in.

His cousin heard him shouting;
she opened the door and hurried out.

"Ah, faithless Lienor," 3948

F et il lues droit ie vos q[ue]roie.
 C arle lions dune corroie
 S achiez queil est forsenez.
 D it livallez vosi mentez 3952
 I e sai m[ou]t bien q[ue] gemedi
 I l nav[ra] q[ue].vii.iors mardi
 Q [ue] je me parti de maience
 o u ge lessai mon oncle ence 3956
 o uil est morz ou il se muert.
 A foi la male morz acuert
 L a desloial qui la houni
 a bessie et avileni 3960
 Q el a perdu cele hautece
 c est cele la a cele trece
 Q [ue] ie voudroie avoir tondue
 A ceste espee tote nue 3964
 d ites biaux nies en q[ue]l maniere
 [c on]ment ma bele fille chiere
 o uen fist ele ladeserte
 t rop i a fete lede perte 3968
 c ar la g[ra]nt vaillance son frere
 a voit tant fet vers lemp[er]ere
 et li renons de sa biaute
 l avoit mis en tel volente 3972
 Q uil la devoit p[re]ndre a moull[ier]
 M es ce len a fet esloignier
 Q [ui]l a dit quel nest pas pucele.
 Q [ua]nt la mere loi et cele 3976
 Q [ui] sevent bien q[ue] cest noianz
 D es biaux oils et des cuers dolanz
 E n ont plore a chaudes larmes
 N ies fet ele de males armes 3980
 p uisse estre mes cors despeciez
 et li siens devant moi noiez
 S onqes oistes tel noient
 I amar en ferez sairement 3984
 t rop par est seue la chose
 A sentresaignes dela rose
 Q [ue]l a devers la destre hanche
 d esor la cuisse grasse et blanche 3988
 Q [ue] male flambe puisse ardoir [f. 89 v 2]
 I e fet la mere endoi avoir
 t ote lahonte et tot leblasme

he said at once, "I was looking for you."
 "We'd better tie him up with something,
 lady--he's gone raving mad."
 The boy said, "You're lying-- 3952
 I know very well what I'm saying!
 It's only seven days on Tuesday
 since I left Mainz,
 where I left my uncle 3956
 either dead or dying.
 By my faith, may a foul death seize
 the faithless woman who has shamed,
 debased, and humiliated him, 3960
 for she has lost that high honor!
 She's the one, there, with those locks
 that I wish I had cut off
 with my own bare sword!" 3964
 "Tell us, fair nephew, in what way?
 How? My fair, dear daughter--
 what did she do to deserve this?"
 "She committed a shameful act, 3968
 for the great valor of her brother
 had so pleased the emperor,
 that the fame of her own beauty
 had convinced him to 3972
 take her as his wife.
 But a man who said that she was not a virgin
 made him back out of it."
 When the mother heard him, and Lienor, 3976
 who knew well that there was nothing in it,
 their beautiful eyes and grieving hearts
 wept hot tears over it. "Nephew,"
 said Lienor's mother, "may my body 3980
 be torn apart with cruel weapons,
 and hers drowned before me,
 if I ever heard such a lie!"
 "A curse on the hour you make such an oath, 3984
 for it is now widely known
 that she has the mark of a rose
 on her right leg,
 on her plump white thigh, 3988
 may an evil flame burn it!"
 "I," said her mother, "must take
 all the shame and all the blame."

E	le clot les oils si se pasme	3992
p	[or] la destrece de son fil	
Q	[ue] il lessa en tel peril	
et	entre lamort et la vie	
c	om deables a g[ra]nt envie	3996
Q	[ua]nt il voit nului fere bien	
L	i vallez voit quil ne puet rien	
G	aaignier enfere mellee	
S	i ramis el fuerre sespee	4000
Q	[ui]l a g[ra]nt pitie de saiole	
Q	[ui] sa mere bese et acole	
Q	ue quele gist en pasmoisons	
	diex selonc ce que nos avons	4004
F	et ele fet et bien et mal	
E	ntre nos et leseneschal	
d	onez a chascun sa deserte	
I	ali avoit ma mere fete	4008
S	i bone chiere et tel samblant	
Q	[ui] se gardast ca enavant	
Q	[ue] maus nos en deust venir	
l	a mere geta un sospir	4012
S	ouvri les oils toz plains de l[er]mes	
l	esse fet ele or est li termes	
Q	[ue] iemen vois dolente a fin	
l	i seneschaus ma morte en fin	4016
Q	[ui] ie dis ma [con]fession	
I	eni entendi se bien non	
Q	[ua]nt ie li contai delachose	
S	i amis vilaine parclose	4020
E	n ce quil me dit lautre ior	
Q	[ui]l mamoit desi g[ra]nt amor	
Q	[ua]ntil me dona son anel	
t	rop le ma vendu son joel	4024
S	e ge pert Guill[ame] mon fil	
b	ele mere ainz la fin davril	
Q	[ui] ia est mout pres de lissue	
a	v[ra]i ge tote a[con]seue	4028
S	a vilonie et sa menconge	
t	ot li ferai tenir a songe	
Q	[ua]nquil a fet le roi cuidier	
N	a garde cui dex veut aidier	4032
N	ege ne dout riens selui non	
Q	[ue] iaie fete mesprison	

She closed her eyes and fainted
 in her anguish for her son,
 whom the boy had left in such danger
 that he hovered between life and death. 3992
 How envious the devil gets
 whenever he sees someone doing good! 3996
 Well, the boy saw that he had nothing to gain
 by making all this uproar,
 and put his sword back in its scabbard, 4000
 for he felt very sorry for Lienor,
 as she kissed and embraced her mother.
 As her mother lay in a faint,
 Lienor said, "May God give 4004
 both to us and to the seneschal
 our just deserts, according to the good
 or evil we have done!
 My mother's face and manner 4008
 once welcomed him so warmly!
 Who could have foreseen that evil
 would later come to us because of it?"
 Her mother heaved a sigh, 4012
 and opened her tear-filled eyes:
 "Wretch," she said, "now it is time
 for me to go sadly to my death.
 The seneschal, to whom I made my confession, 4016
 has slain me in the end.
 I never meant any harm by it,
 when I told him the tale:
 he's made it end badly, 4020
 and after telling me that
 he loved me so dearly,
 and giving me his ring.
 He sold me his jewel too dear, 4024
 if I lose my son Guillaume!"
 "Fair mother, before the end of April,
 which is already very near,
 I will have utterly exposed 4028
 his villainy and his deception.
 I will make him recant everything
 he has made the king believe.
 The one whom God wishes to help need not fear, *4032
 and I fear only Him--
 and not that I have done wrong

o	u iaie p[er]du enavant	[f. 90 r 1]
Q	[ue] quele fet si biau samblant	4036
S	est ele ou cuer m[ou]t des[con]fite	
M	[ou]t prie le saint esp[er]ite	
Q	uil [con]saut et li et sam[er]e	
et	sa grant mesnie qui ere	4040
m	[ou]t dolante de son damage	
S	ele pert le g[ra]nt segnorage	
S	i come destre emp[er]eriz	
b	ien les a toz morz et traiz	4044
p	[ar] son engin li seneschaus	
d	ame fetes q[ue]rre chevaus	
S	irai a cort veoir m[on] frere	
o	nq[ue]s si p[ro]dom co[m] il ere	4048
N	e morut por si fet damage	
L	i siecles la pieca usage	
Q	en dit ainz le mal q[ue]le bien	
o	r sachiez de fi une rien	4052
G	e men revend[ra]i tote lie	
Q	[ue] cil qui reput sa mesnie	
d	e.v.pains et de.ii.poissons	
a	u g[ra]nt droit q[ue] nos i avons	4056
N	osi sauvera noz honors	
l	ors fist q[ue]rre.ii.vavassors	
.ii.	p[ro]dome qele enmenra	
p	[ar] son g[ra]nt sens ravigora	4060
S	a mere et toz ceuz de lostel	
S	es nies q[ui]ot este entel	
et	si dures a adomesch[ier]	
p	rist le ior a aharneschier	4064
S	on oirre et se mist en g[ra]nt paine	
D	e la soe robe demaine	
F	urent tuit plain dui m[ou]t bel coffre	
o	nqes nule damoisele orfe	4068
t	ant nen ot ne tant bel ioel	
Q	[ue]l avoit ia tot son trossel	
A	torne por son mariage	
o	nqes nen fu nule si sage	4072
S	i li parra et apparut	
a	umatinet q[ua]nt ele mut	
I	ot m[ou]t besie et plore.	
b	ele fille a saint honore	4076
[c	on]mant to[n] cors q[ue]l part quil aille	

and that I have lost in advance."
 Although she put such a brave face on it, 4036
 in her heart she was disconsolate.
 She prayed hard to the Holy Spirit
 to help both her and her mother
 and her whole household, which was 4040
 so sorrowful at the harm she had suffered.
 If she lost such a great position
 as that of empress,
 then by his trick the seneschal 4044
 had truly betrayed and ruined them all.
 "Lady, have horses brought,
 and I will go to court to see my brother;
 never will such a noble man 4048
 die for such a misfortune as this.
 It's always been the way of the world
 to speak the evil rather than the good.
 One thing you should know for certain: 4052
 I will return from there rejoicing,
 for He who fed His entire following
 with five loaves and two fishes
 will save our honor for us, 4056
 because we are wholly in the right."
 Then she had two vavasours summoned,
 two gentlemen, whom she would take with her.
 With her great good sense she heartened 4060
 her mother and everyone there.
 Her nephew, who had been in such a state
 and so difficult to bring around,
 spent the day preparing for 4064
 the journey, and went to great trouble.
 Two very handsome coffer
 were completely filled with her clothing:
 never did any orphaned maiden 4068
 have so much, or so many fair jewels,
 for her entire trousseau
 was already prepared for her marriage.
 There was never so wise a maiden, 4072
 as we have seen and shall see.
 In the morning early, when she set out,
 there was much kissing and weeping:
 "Fair daughter, I commend you 4076
 to Saint Honorius, wherever you go."

b ele mere dex vos i vaille
 o u ge ai tote mafiance
 N us ne fust a la dessev[ra]nce 4080
 Q [ua]nt la pucele dut mont[er] [f. 90 r 2]
 S il deust l[er]mes emprunt[er]
 Q uil ne covenist q[ue] plorast
 A incois quele sen paralast 4084
 p [ar] fu trop la dolor [con]mune
 E nplorant chas[cun] et chascune
 [c on]mande par son non a deu
 l amere en a mout son nevou 4088
 p rie si com ele miex puet
 d unes chaudes lermes li peut
 l eve qui li descent desiex
 a! diex co[m] venist ore miex 4092
 Q [ue] li seneschax fust a nestre
 m [ou]t dolant sen p[ar]tent delestre
 l i dui ch[evalie]r qui len mainent
 l amere en ont cil qui remaignent 4096
 p ar les b[ra]z menee en.i.lit
 s aioie cuide et son delit
 A voir p[er]due a toziorz mes
 o rnen iert mie apportez mes 4100
 Q [ue] la damoizele lemporte
 F ont les genz q[ui] iusq[ua] la porte
 l e [con]voierent dou plessie
 o nq[ue]s mes not tel doel lessie 4104
 E nvile com ele i lessa
 A deu q[ui] m[ou]t bien enpensa
 l a [con]mand[er]ent e ele euls
 o r sen vet orla [con]saut diex 4108
 S i fera il gel sai de voir
 o r referoit m[ou]t bon savoir
 [c on]ment ses freres se [con]tint
 D enule chose ne li tint 4112
 N e de nul solas que il oie
 C has[cun] ior i vet ou envoie
 l emp[er]eres por [con]forter
 d e tot le fet amonester 4116
 Q [ui]l pense qui bien li puist fere
 l i bons rois et li debonere
 .i. soir i vint ap[re]s souper
 o nq[ue]s not [con]pegnon ne per 4120

"Fair mother, may God help you,
 in Whom I place all my trust!"
 No one there at their parting, 4080
 when the maiden had to mount,
 would have been able to keep from weeping then,
 even if he had to borrow the tears.
 Before she went on her way 4084
 the general sorrow was overwhelming.
 Weeping, every man and woman
 commended her by name to God.
 Her mother begged her nephew, 4088
 as earnestly as she could, to protect Lienor.
 A few hot tears rained down;
 water streamed from her eyes.
 Oh, God, it would have been better 4092
 if the seneschal had never been born!
 Very sorrowfully the two knights
 who escorted her left the place.
 Those who stayed behind took Lienor's mother 4096
 by the arm and led her to bed.
 She thought that she had lost her joy
 and her happiness forever.
 "Now her happiness will never return, 4100
 for the maiden is taking it with her,"
 said the people who escorted Lienor
 as far as the gate of the manor.
 Never had anyone left such sorrow 4104
 behind her in the village as the maiden did.
 To God, who watched over her,
 they commended her, and she them;
 then she left. May God help her now! 4108
 And He will, I'm certain of that.
 Now it's time to see again
 how her brother was doing.
 He didn't care about anything, 4112
 or any consolation he was offered.
 Every day the emperor went there
 or sent word to comfort him,
 and had him provided with everything 4116
 which he thought might do Guillaume good.
 The good and noble king
 went there one evening after supper;
 he had no other companion or noble with him 4120

- Q un sol ch[evalie]r et juglet
 S oirent chanter.i.vallet
 l abone chancon le vidame
 d e chartres.onq[ue]s mes nule ame 4124
 c eli sambla en chevauchant
 m iex ne dist cest vers ne cest chant
 Q uant li douz tenz et la sesons sasseure.q[ue] [f. 90 v 1]
 biaux estez se raferme et esclaire.et tote rie[n]s
 a sa droite nature.vient et retret se nest t[ro]p
 de mal aire.chant[er] mestuet car plus ne me[n]
 puis taire por [con]fort[er] ma cruel aventure
 Qui mest tornee a g[ra]nt mesaventure---
 A ma dolor na mestier cov[er]ture.si sui sos /
 pris q[ue] ne men puis retrere.mar acointai
 sa t[re]s douce feture p[or] tel dolor ne por tel mal
 atrere.qui ce me fet q[ue] nus ne puet deffe /
 re fors ses durs cuers q[ui] v[er]s moi est si dure
 qa la mort sui se longuement mi dure.
 F et li rois iuglet a droiture
 F u ciz v[er]s fet por moi sanz doute
 i or avant autre passa toute
 c ele q[ui]nzaine deerraine 4144
 d avril.queli baron dou regne
 d urent estre a maience tuit
 S i furent il a g[ra]nt deduit
 b ien i parut ala m[er]veille 4148
 d emaintenant ala sorvelle
 d e lenvoiseure quil firent
 t uit li citoien sen issirent
 m ienuit por aler au bos 4152
 l a cite en avoit le los
 d estre toz iors m[ou]t deduianz
 A u matin q[ua]nt li iors fu g[ra]nz
 et il aport[er]ent lor mai 4156
 t uit chargie de flors et de glai
 et de rainsiaus v[er]z et foilluz
 o nc si biaux mais ne fu veuz
 d egieus de flors et de v[er]dure 4160
 p [ar] mi la cite a droiture
 l e vont a g[ra]nt ioie portant
 et dui damoiseil vont chantant
 T out la gieus sor rivemer.[con]paignon or 4164
 dou chanter.dames i ot bauz levez.m[ou]t

but a single knight and Jouglet,
 and they listened to a boy singing
 that good song by the Vidame
 de Chartres. Never did any other soul
 sing the words or the song better,
 so it seemed to him as he rode: *4124

When the season of fair weather comes on,
 and sweet summer grows stronger and brighter,
 and everything returns to its right nature,
 if it is not too base to do so, then I must sing,
 for I can no longer keep silent, to soften my cruel
 fortune, which has turned into great misfortune.

There is no use covering up my sorrow,
 for I am so overcome that I cannot pretend.
 Alas that I ever saw her sweet form, which brings me
 such sorrow and pain, and does to me what no one
 can ever undo, except her own noble heart--which is so hard
 toward me that I will die if this keeps up for long!

The king said, "Truly, Jouglet,
 these verses were written for me, beyond all doubt."

One day at a time, then, the last
 two weeks of April passed by, toward the day
 when all the lords of the realm
 had to be in Mainz. 4144

They were all pleased to be there;
 this was very clear to see,
 the day before the eve of May-day,
 from the celebrations they held there. 4148

All the townspeople set out
 to go to the woods while it was still dark. 4152

The city had the reputation
 for being always very festive;
 in the morning, when the day dawned
 and they brought home their May, 4156

all laden with flowers and gladiola
 and green and leafy branches,
 such a beautiful May was never seen,
 for its games, flowers, and greenery. 4160

Straight through the center of town
 they carried it in with great joy,
 and two young men went singing,

Way down there, along the shore, companions, let us sing!
 Ladies have begun a dance, and my heart is light.

en ai le cuer gai [con]paignon or dou chan
 ter enlonor de mai.Q[ua]nt il lore[n]t bien p[or]cha[n]te
 E s soliers amont lont porte
 et mis hors p[ar]mi les fenestres 4172
 D ont ont embeliz toz les estres
 et getent p[ar]tot herbe et flor
 S orle pavement porlonor
 D ou haut ior et dou haut [con]cire 4176
 Q [ui] la fu il pot m[ou]t biendre
 [c on]q[ue]s en lieu ouil alast [f. 90 v 2]
 N e vit tant de richece a gast
 A ler.com il a la ale 4180
 L es rues delonc et dele
 S ont p[or]tendues de cortines
 D e cendaus de penes h[er]mines
 d e baudeq[ui]ns de ciglatons 4184
 o nt toz les pignons des mesons
 F et par richece encortiner
 l en ni pooit nul lieu trover
 N ule part se richece non 4188
 et ladamoisele aubiau non
 Q uï vient dou plessie m[ou]t dolente
 A mout en autre lieu sentente
 Q ue cil nont qui font cele ioie 4192
 t ant a erre qala monioie
 v int de maience m[ou]t matin
 C elior en romanz sanz latin
 p arla ases.ii.ch[evalie]rs 4196
 I e vousisse mout volentiers
 S e vos le vousissiez amdui
 Q [ue] mes nies sen alast mes hui
 F et ele avant p[or]t lostel p[re]ndre 4200
 et si li voel de ci aprendre
 Q [ue] de la oumes freres maint
 et mes oncles quil men esloint
 P lus quil porra ensus diloec 4204
 d ame font il dont voist ovoec
 U ns de cez autres escuiers
 p [or]t revenir quil est mestiers
 E n[con]tre nos li qex q[ue] soit 4208
 L i nies a tant sen p[ar]tissoit
 d e santain m[ou]t tost et.i.autre
 E nla cite qui nestoit autre

Companions, let us sing in honor of May!
 When they had sung it all the way through,
 they brought their may-bouquets upstairs
 and hung them outside the windows 4172
 to decorate all the balconies,
 and scattered grasses and flowers on the ground
 all around to honor the holiday
 and the noble assembly. 4176
 Anyone who was there could well say
 that nowhere had he ever seen
 such riches strewn about
 as were scattered there that day. 4180
 The length and breadth of the streets
 were festooned with hangings;
 cendal silk and ermine furs,
 rich brocades and exotic silks 4184
 adorned the facades of the houses,
 draped for a rich display.
 No one could find anything
 anywhere there but riches. 4188
 But the maiden with the beautiful name,
 who came sadly from her manor,
 had her thoughts in quite a different place
 than those who were celebrating so joyfully. 4192
 She traveled until she reached
 the hill outside Mainz in the early morning.
 That day, in clear French without Latin,
 she spoke to her two knights: * 4196
 "I would very much like," she said,
 "if you both agreed,
 for my nephew to go on ahead now,
 to secure us a lodging; 4200
 and I also want to instruct him
 to choose me a lodging
 as far away as possible from where
 my brother and his companions are." 4204
 "Lady," they said, "then let one
 of these other squires--whichever you choose--
 go along with him, and return
 to meet us, for he will have to lead us there." 4208
 Her nephew with one other youth
 quickly took leave of his aunt.
 Once in the city, which was nothing less

Q	ue la plus riche et la plus bele.	4212
p	[or] prendre lostel la pucele	
S	en vont parles rues dencoste	
D	amedex lor dona un hoste	
l	a plus vaillant q[ue] iames voient	4216
D	e.ii.borioises qui venoient	
D	oir la messe matinel	
L	une lenmaine a son hostel	
Q	ui plus ert sage que vilaine	4220
E	nune rue auques foraine	
E	rt samesons mout aaisiee	
l	a chambre bele et envoisiee	
l	or moustra et puis les estables	[f. 91 r 1] 4224
m	out ert li ostex delitables	
Q	uil i avoit jardins et puis	
S	egnor fet ele ie ne puis	
m	oustrer hostel autre quil est	4228
D	ame q[ua]nque mestiers i est	
i	a.que bon ior vos doint dex	
L	uesdroit est montez li uns deuls	
p	[or] aler en[con]tre lor genz	4232
L	i ostexest et biaux et genz	
A	m[ou]t poi dembelissement	
l	i vallez einsifetement	
c	om il issoit hors de la porte	4236
E	n[con]tre ceuz quiil reporte	
b	ones noveles de lostel	
Q	uil lor ont pris si bon et tel	
A	devise com il rouverent	4240
l	idui ch[evalie]r i men[er]ent	
L	a gentil pucele honeree	
E	mbrunche et enchap[er]onee	
I	lla descendent en la court	4244
L	aborioise as deg[re]z li court	
E	n[con]tre sa bone venue	
p	[ar] lamain quel ot blanche et nue	
l	e maine ensa chambre tot droit	4248
E	lli a demande lues droit	
p	[or] qoi cele grant aune	
E	stoit enla vile assamblee	
l	e p[re]mier ior de mai entrant	4252
l	aborioise li vet moust[ra]nt	
c	equele set par oir dire	

than the richest and most beautiful of all, 4212
 they went along the narrow side-streets
 to secure a lodging for the maiden.
 The Lord God sent them a hostess,
 the most excellent they ever saw: 4216
 two townswomen were returning
 from hearing the morning mass,
 and one of them, more wise than rustic,
 led them to her house. 4220
 Her house was comfortably placed
 in a street rather out of the way.
 She showed them the room,
 gay and cheerful, and then the stables. 4224
 The lodging was delightful,
 with its own gardens and a well.
 "Lords," she said, "I have nothing
 but this to show you." 4228
 "Lady, everything we need
 is here. May God bless you!"
 One of the two went riding straight back
 to go meet the others. 4232
 The lodging was nice and pretty,
 though with very little decoration.
 Just as soon as the boy
 went out the city gate, 4236
 he met those to whom he gave
 the good news about their lodging,
 for he had found a nice one,
 just what they had asked for. 4240
 The two knights escorted
 the noble honored maiden there;
 her head was bent and hooded.
 They helped her dismount in the courtyard, 4244
 and the townswoman ran down the steps
 to greet her and make her welcome;
 she led her by her bare white hand
 quickly to her room. 4248
 Lienor soon asked her
 why there were so many people
 gathered in the city
 on the first day of May. 4252
 The townswoman explained to her
 what she knew by hearsay,

Q	[ue] li emp[er]eres lor sire	
D	evoit parl[er] de prendre fame	4256
S	i a mande p[ar] son roiaume	
et	assamble les haus barons	
p	[or] ce quil est droiz et resons	
S	i sen [con]seillera a euls	4260
F	et la beleorlen [con]selt diex	
S	i com il set quil est mestiers	
m	[ou]t parveisse volentiers	
S	e cene fust piteuse chose	4264
L	ermes plus cleres deve rose	
L	i couroient aval levis	
C	ar cest torz celi est avis	
S	e dex ni fet miracle ap[er]te	4268
I	puet a double estre la p[er]te	
et	de sonor et de son frere	[f. 91 r 2]
l	i cuers li dieult t[ro]p de sa mere.	
p	ar coi cez larmes issent fors	4272
E	le apela son nevou lors	
et	ses ch[evalie]rs a [con]seil	
S	egn[or] dit ele ie vos voeil	
d	emand[er] que vos mensegniez	4276
l	i qex est li miex affetiez	
d	evoz vallez et li plus sages	
Q	[ui] me puist port[er] messages	
E	n cele cort a.i.prodome	4280
L	iuns des ch[evalie]rs linome	
.I.	soen vallet sage et recuit	
o	r sachiez bien fet il ie cuit	
Q	[ui]l fera bien v[ost]re besoigne	4284
E	lle fist lues droit sanz aloigne	
E	nla chambre alui apeler	
S	en fist son neveu hors al[er]	
et	ses ch[evalie]rs et sagent	4288
F	et el au vallet bel et gent	
V	os men irez auseneschal	
S	i porterez cest affichal	
c	est tiessu et ceste aumosniere	4292
t	ot est brode dune maniere	
et	si a dedenz.i.anel	
A	une esmeraude mout bel	
et	gardez bien q[ue] nuls nel voie	4296
S	ili direz que li envoie	

that their lord the emperor
 was supposed to talk about taking a wife; 4256
 and he had sent throughout his kingdom
 to assemble his noble lords,
 because it was right and proper
 to consult with them about it. 4260
 Fair Lienor said, "May God advise him,
 as He knows best! -
 I would have been glad to see it,
 except for one sad circumstance." 4264
 Tears clearer than rose-water
 ran down her face,
 this seemed very wrong to her:
 if God did not perform a public miracle 4268
 then her loss could be double,
 both her honor and her brother.
 Her heart ached sorely for her mother,
 which made her tears flow. 4272
 Then she summoned her nephew
 and her knights for a consultation:
 "Lords," she said, "I want you
 to show me which of your pages 4276
 is the most capable
 and the cleverest, who can
 deliver a message for me
 to a lord at this court." 4280
 One of the knights named for her
 a clever and experienced page of his:
 "I think you will find," he said,
 "that he will do your errand well." 4284
 Without delay she had him
 brought to her in her chamber,
 and had her nephew leave the room
 with the two knights and the servants. 4288
 She told the handsome boy,
 "You will go to the seneschal for me,
 and give him this clasp,
 this cloth belt, and this alms-purse. 4292
 It is all embroidered with the same design,
 and inside the purse there is
 a very fine ring with an emerald in it--
 take very good care that no one sees it. 4296
 Tell him that it's all been sent to him

L	a chastelaine de dijon	
p	[or] li i sont cil oisillon	
o	u tiessu et cil poissonet	4300
b	iaus amis fet el au vallet	
E	ntendez bien q[ue] ie vos di	
D	ites vos tornaste mardi	
D	ediion p[or] venir a lui	4304
b	uervos aiorna ciz jors hui	
S	e vos fetes bien la besoigne.	
S	e dex garist mon cors dessoine	
i	amar en douterez de rien.	4308
F	et la pucele ie sai bien	
Q	uil laproiee longuement	
o	nq[ue]s nul acreantement	
N	eli vout fere de samor	4312
o	r se porpensa a.i.ior	
Q	uele en fesoit trop que vilaine	
S	i li mande la chastelaine	
Q	[ue] sil iames veult qel le voie	[f. 91 v 1] 4316
Q	ue cest tiessu q[ue] li envoie	
c	eigne asa char soz sachemise	
S	evos veez quil li ait mise	
S	i dites que par cest anel	4320
Q	[ue]le trest de sondoi manel	
Q	uele se rent en sa merci	
et	quel a mout le cuer nerci	
D	e ce que tant la escondit	4324
U	ne pucele le me dit	
Q	[ui] enporta m[ou]t les messages	
b	iau douz amis or soiez sages	
S	ilvos met de plus en parole	4328
d	ites qel ne vos rouva ore	
p	lus dire rien a cele voie	
F	ors tant tart li est quel le voie	
S	en p[re]ndra p[ar] tens bon [con]roi	4332
A	lostel ou devant le roi	
l	etrov[er]ez a parlement.	
F	et il nen doutez de noient	
G	el qu[er]rai tant que ge lavrai	4336
A	tant sen torne sanz delai	
et	dexle [con]duie et ramaint	
l	a dame en qui chambre ele maint	
R	evint a ciex quel apela	4340

by the Châtelaine of Dijon:
 the little birds and little fish
 in the cloth are there because of her. 4300
 Fair friend," she said to the boy,
 "listen carefully to what I tell you:
 tell him that you set out Tuesday
 from Dijon to come to him. 4304
 This will be your lucky day,
 if you do this errand well."
 "With God's help, lady,
 you won't have to worry about a thing." 4308
 The maiden said, "I know for a fact
 that he courted her for a long time;
 she never consented to give him
 any assurance of her love. 4312
 Then one day she decided
 that she was behaving too churlishly.
 The châtelaine sends word to him
 that, if he wants her ever to see him, 4316
 he must tie this cloth she sends to him
 over his bare skin, beneath his shirt.
 If you see that he has put it on,
 tell him that, by this ring 4320
 which she took from her little finger,
 she gives herself to him,
 and that her heart is very heavy
 that she has refused him for so long. 4324
 All this a maiden told me,
 who carried many of her messages.
 Fair sweet friend, now be clever:
 if he presses you for further speech, 4328
 say that she asked you
 to say nothing further about this,
 except that she is so anxious to see him
 that she will soon arrange it. 4332
 You will find the man at his lodging
 or in council with the king."
 The boy answered, "Don't worry about anything,
 for I'll look for him until I find him." 4336
 At that he went off without delay--
 and may God lead him there and back!
 The lady in whose room Lienor was staying
 returned with the knights when she called them; 4340

A s ch[evalie]rs dit quil ni a
 Q [ue] de vestir les robes vaires
 Q uel lor fist achat[er] na gaires
 d une escarlata violette 4344
 b lans ganz et une ceinturete
 b roudee dora escuciaus
 a done a chascun de ciaus
 m [ou]t envoisees et m[ou]t beles 4348
 E nlonor des robes noveles
 L a soe robe apareille
 S es niez q[ui] est bele a m[er]velle
 d un samit inde a pene h[er]mine 4352
 o nq[ue]s si blanche ne si fine
 N e fu nule ne miex ouvree
 S or chemise blanche aflouree
 E nvesti la cote en puret 4356
 m es el estoit dun cendal vert
 t ote forree et cors et manches
 E l ot.i.poi basses les hansches
 et grailles flans et biaule pis 4360
 u n poi fu plus haus li samis
 d esus la mamelete dure [f. 91 v 2]
 m out i ot bien ouvre nature
 Q ueque li seneschaus ait dit 4364
 Se deu plest et saint esperit
 Q ue toz maus len vend[ra] p[ar]tens
 L i couls fu lons et gras et blans
 p [ar] reson sanz gorme et sanz fronce 4368
 o nq[ue]s damoisele selonc ce
 Q uele estoit triste et dolente
 N e sot plus bel metre sentente
 E n li acesmer et vestir 4372
 p [or] sa gorge parembelir
 M ist.i.fermail a sa chemise
 o uvre p[ar] grande maiestrise
 R iche dor et bel de feture 4376
 b asset et plain doi doverture
 et si quela poitrine blanche
 A ssez plus q[ue] nest noif sor branche
 L i parut que mout lamenda 4380
 Q [ue] qele se ceint et lia
 D esaguimple et de sa ceinture
 D ont li ors de la forreure

to the knights she said that they
 were to put on the furred robes
 which she had just bought for them,
 of a purple-dyed cloth. 4344
 She gave to each of them
 white gloves and a little belt
 embroidered with little gold shields
 to do justice to their new robes 4348
 so elegant and so ornate.
 Her nephew prepared her robe,
 which was marvelously beautiful,
 of a dark-blue samite with an ermine lining;
 there was never ermine so white 4352
 or fine, or better fashioned.
 Over a white flowered chemise
 Lienor put on her tunic; 4356
 the tunic was of a green silk,
 completely lined, both body and sleeves.
 She had slender flanks,
 a long waist, and a lovely bosom; 4360
 the samite rose a little
 across her firm little breasts.
 Nature had crafted her well:
 if it please God and the Holy Spirit, 4364
 whatever the seneschal may have said,
 he'd have to pay for all the trouble, in time.
 Her neck was long and white
 and smooth, without wrinkles or blemishes. 4368
 Considering that she was sad and sorrowful,
 never did a maiden know better
 how to use her skills
 to dress and adorn herself. 4372
 To enhance her throat even more
 she set a brooch on her chemise,
 crafted with great mastery,
 rich in gold and of beautiful workmanship, 4376
 set low and open a bit,
 so that her bosom appeared, far whiter
 than fallen snow on a branch,
 which greatly became her. 4380
 While she tied on her wimple
 and fastened her belt,
 the gold of whose clasp

V	aloit plus de.xxv.l[ivres].	4384
l	i valles q[ui] nest fous ne ivres	
N	e sest en nul lieu delaiez	
C	elui ou il fu envoiez	
t	rova enmi le parlement	4388
I	l larresna m[ou]t cointement	
S	i com par [con]munes paroles	
m	[ou]t sagement lenmena lores	
h	ors dou pales lez.i.haut mur	4392
Q	[ua]nt ilvit quil fu asseur	
et	q[ue]n nel vit de nule part	
l	e mantel deso[n] col depart	
C	o[m] cil qui estoit outre sages	4396
S	ire fet il ge sui messages	
A	la plus sage et mains vilaine	
S	achiez q[ue] cest la chastelaine	
d	e dijon dont ge sui venuz	4400
Q	[ui] ne me sui arrestez	
A	g[ra]nz iornees puis mardi	
E	le vos mande et gel vosdi	
Q	[ue]le se rent en vo m[er]ci	4404
p	[ar].i.sien anel q[ue] iai ci	
et	si vos envoie.i.tiessu	
Q	[ua]ntli iouel fure[n]t issu	
d	ou d[ra]pel ou il fure[n]t mis	[f. 92 r 1] 4408
m	adame fetil biaux amis	
d	oint dex ioie et bone aventure	
l	efermail lanel la ceinture	
E	sgarda m[ou]t et laumosniere	4412
m	[ou]t en est dest[ra]nge maniere	
E	sbahiz.et m[ou]t sen m[er]velle	
S	e cest miracles ou m[er]velle	
Q	[ue] li est de lui souvenu	4416
M	es [con]ment que soit avenu	
m	[ou]t aime et prise les ioiaus	
o	ren demaine ses aviaus	
A	sesoils et entor son chief	4420
m	[ou]t en sot bien venir a chief	
d	ela menco[n]ge dire et faindre	
t	ant li a dit quil li fist caindre	
e	mp[re]s sa char soz la chemise	4424
S	ili a si adestroit mise	
Q	[ue] la char tot entor le flanc	

was worth over twenty-five pounds, 4384
 the boy, who was neither stupid nor drunk,
 did not linger anywhere on his way.
 He found the one he had been sent to
 in the middle of the assembly. 4388
 The boy spoke to him politely,
 seeming to make casual conversation,
 and very shrewdly led him
 out of the palace, beside a high wall. 4392
 When he saw that he was safe
 and that no one was watching anywhere,
 he removed the cloak from around his neck
 like a man who is extremely well-bred. 4396
 "Lord," he said, "I am a messenger
 from the wisest and most refined lady.
 You should know that I come
 from the Châtelaine of Dijon, 4400
 and I have not stopped to rest
 in the long days of travel since Tuesday.
 She sends word to you, and I tell you,
 that she gives herself to you 4404
 with a ring of hers which I have here,
 and she also sends you this cloth."
 When the treasures were removed
 from the cloth they were wrapped in, 4408
 the seneschal said, "Fair friend, may God
 give my lady joy and good fortune!"
 The brooch, the ring, the belt
 he looked hard at, and the alms-purse; 4412
 he was most marvelously amazed,
 and he wondered greatly whether
 it was by a miracle or by magic
 that she had finally remembered him. 4416
 But however it had come about,
 he dearly loved and valued his treasures;
 his delight showed in his eyes
 and the expression on his face. 4420
 The page-boy knew well how to put
 the finishing touches on his lie;
 He talked until he made the seneschal belt
 the cloth onto his skin, beneath his shirt; 4424
 and he tied it on so tightly
 that the flesh all around his waist

l	enestavivee de sanc	
p	uis veut affichier le fermail	4428
C	il en fist lues.i.fol baail	
p	[or] ce quil ot talant de rire	
F	et il ele me rouva dire	
Q	uil remainsist en laumosniere	4432
Q	[ue] nus p[ar] au[cun]ne meniere	
A	vostre col nelenterchast	
c	uili cuers denvie en p[er]cast	
E	le dit q[ue] preuz et q[ue] sage	4436
b	iaus amis fetil au message	
A	stuencore point dostel	
t	u vois bien nos somes entel	
Q	[ue] ie nepuis a toi entendre	4440
S	i puisse gedeu lame rendre	
j	aimles ioiaus plus de.c.l[ivres]	
A	nq[ue]nuit q[ua]nt giere delivres	
S	i parl[er]ons de mon afere	4444
m	es or va si fai robe vaire	
b	on mantel et cote et sorcot	
b	ien iert qui paiera lescot	
S	i i avoit.c.s[ols]ou plus	4448
N	e sai q[ue] ge te die plus	
m	esorva si pense detoi	
et	geirai deva[n]t le roi	
L	a departie fu tost fete	4452
	li escuiers m[ou]t sen reheté	
D	e ce quil est si amusez	[f. 92 r 2]
N	a pas ses moz en vain usez	
A	inz sen reva m[ou]t tost arriere	4456
S	a dame trueve entel meniere	
Q	[ui]l nen est or nule si bele	
o	r ca mes amis quel novele	
m	e direz vos de cele court	4460
m	aint tyois i a lonc et court	
et	de barons p[re]sse t[ro]p grant	
a	hi!co[m] el est plus eng[ra]nt	
D	e savoir quil a raporte.	4464
A	[con]seil li a cil conte	
[c	on]ment il avoit exploitie	
I	l a miex fete lamoitie	
l	abesoigne qel ne rova	4468
S	es doz cuerstoz li sousleva	

was flushed with blood because of it;
 next he wanted to fasten on the brooch. 4428
 The boy then gave a mighty yawn
 to cover the laughter he felt,
 and said, "She asked me to say
 that it should remain in the alms-purse, 4432
 so that no one whose heart might be
 pierced with envy should ever
 recognize it at your throat."
 "She spoke wisely and virtuously, 4436
 fair friend," the seneschal answered him.
 "Do you have a lodging yet?
 You can see that as things are
 I cannot attend to you properly; 4440
 but as I hope to give my soul to God,
 I value these gifts more than a hundred pounds!
 This very night, when I am free,
 we shall speak of this business. 4444
 But now go, and have a miniver-lined costume made,
 with a good cloak and a tunic and doublet.
 The bill will certainly be paid,
 even if it's a hundred sous or more. 4448
 I don't know what else to tell you,
 so go now and look after yourself,
 while I go before the king."
 The parting was soon over. 4452
 The squire was delighted
 to see the seneschal made a fool of;
 he didn't waste any words,
 but rather went quickly back. 4456
 He found his lady so dressed up
 that there was now none so beautiful.
 "And now, my friend, what news
 can you tell me of this court?" 4460
 "There are many Flemings there, everywhere you look,
 and a tremendous crowd of lords."
 Oh, how anxious she was
 to hear what he had to tell! 4464
 In private he told her
 how he had managed with the seneschal.
 He had handled the matter
 even better than she had hoped; 4468
 her gentle heart leaped up

E	rroment ou ventre de ioie	
j	adex ne doigne q[ue] ie ioie	
N	de moi ne dami q[ue] iaie	4472
S	e ie recoif mie en manaie	
C	este bonte ne cest servise	
Q	[ue] fet mavez ama devise	
t	el chose dont ge m[ou]t vos prise	4476
A	ceuz qui furent bien apris	
d	estre a cort ovoec les barons	
A	dit segn[or] car en alons	
v	eoir cele g[ra]nt assamblee	4480
S	e ceste nos est hui emblee	
N	os ne v[er]rons tele des mois	
l	ivallet ont lues demanois	
l	es biaux palefrois amenez	4484
l	i siens fu ferranz pomelez	
S	iotla crignebien assise	
L	ilorains fubiaus adevise	
et	la sambue iusq[ue]nt[er]re	4488
d	une escarlate denglet[er]re	
S	iert dun cendal jaune forree	
l	escarlate ert defferetee	
S	i q[ue]n vit bien parmi le jaune	4492
l	iarcon nefurent pas daune	
a	inz sont divoire a esmax fet	
S	or.i.harnois.i.poi plus let	
p	uet len bien mont[er] aubesoig	4496
j	e ne sai pas p[or] coi ialoig	
l	afere ainz dirai plus briement	
Q	ainz qele fust au p[ar]lement	
l	esgard[er]lent plus de.c.genz	[f. 92 v 1] 4500
L	i palefrois fubiaus et genz	
et	li harnois m[ou]t avenanz	
A	inz quele montast la vaillanz	
f	ist ele que fine cortoise	4504
Q	[ue]le dona ala borioise	
p	[or] sonor et por ses hostez	
.i.	anel a.ii.castonez	
S	ot en chascun une esmeraude	4508
p	uis q[ue] berte as g[ra]nz piez ne aude	
M	orut qui fu suer olivier	
N	e fist feme tant a proisier	
N	ene fu de si bon endroit	4512

in her breast for joy.

"May God never grant happiness
to me or any friend of mine, 4472

if I do not receive this kindness
and this service with gratitude,
for you have done for me exactly as I wished
a task for which I value you highly." 4476

To her companions, who were well instructed
in how to behave at court among lords,
she said, "Lords, do let us go
to see this great assembly; 4480

if we do not see it today,
we will not see another such for months."
Quickly the pages led around
their handsome palfreys. 4484

Hers was a dapple grey
with a well-dressed mane;
its saddle was as beautiful as you can imagine,
and the saddle-cloth of English scarlet, 4488

lined with an ornate yellow silk,
hung down to the ground;
the scarlet was of open-work,
so that you could see the yellow beneath it. 4492

The pommel and cantle weren't made of alderwood,
but rather of enamelled ivory.
With rather humbler trappings
one can also ride, at need! 4496

I don't know why I'm dragging this out,
so I'll just say more succinctly
that before she had reached the assembly
more than a hundred people had stared at her. 4500

The palfrey was handsome and noble
and its gear very becoming.
Before the worthy Lienor mounted
she made a fine and courteous gesture, 4504

for she gave a gift to her hostess
for her honor, and for her lodging:
a ring with two settings,
each one containing an emerald. 4508

Not since Berthe au Grand Pied died,
or Aude, Oliver's sister,
had there been a woman so worthy of regard
or of such good character. 4512

S i ch[evalie]r pristrent lues droit
 D unde lor mantiax.i.acor
 S ont monte bele lienor
 et puis erromentsi mont[er]ent 4516
 t ot a cheval li atorn[er]ent
 S a robe qonc ne sen mesla
 S i vos di qele salua
 S on oste q[ua]nt ele sen issi 4520
 b ien puet une pucele einssi
 A cort aler devant.i.roi
 A tel harnois a tel [con]roi
 S i ap[er]te si ademise 4524
 L i ch[evalie]r lont entraus mise
 S i quil vont dune part et dautre
 t outes les genz et un et autre
 L i vont orant bone aventure 4528
 t ant avoit desouz la ceinture
 d escovert le piz et le cors
 et savoit andeus les acors
 D e son mantel p[ar] devant li 4532
 et savez qui mout labeli
 Q [ue]l ot descovert son visage
 S ot mise une main a satache
 et si tint a lautre saresne 4536
 et sachiez cil cui ele arresne
 d ient p[or]voir q[ue]l a vois dangre
 t uit li riche boriois dou change
 S e sont en[con]tre lui leve 4540
 m [ou]t ont tuit enlor cuer loe
 S a simplece et sa [con]tenance
 F ont il ou roiaume de france
 N e troveroit ceste sa per 4544
 L en porroit les borses couper
 A ceuls q[ui] vont emp[re]s musant [f. 92 v 2]
 l i lorain sont bel et sonant
 A s ch[evalie]rs qui lamen[er]ent 4548
 et cez hautes dames q[ui] erent
 E s loges en vair et en gris
 A massent m[ou]t.i.deses ris
 Q uegele les vait saluant 4552
 Q [ue] vet lemp[er]eres q[ue]rant
 F ont cez borioises q[ui] veut feme
 h e!dex car p[re]gne ceste dame

Her knights at once took
 their cloaks in hand
 and helped Lienor to mount,
 then mounted quickly themselves. 4516
 They arranged her robe on the horse's back
 so that it did not become tangled;
 I'll mention that she bid her hostess
 farewell when she rode away. 4520
 Such a maiden may well
 go to court before a king
 with such harness and such escort,
 so clever and so determined. 4524
 The knights placed her between them
 so that one rode on either side of her.
 All the people, one and all,
 went wishing her good fortune. 4528
 She had opened her dress a little
 to expose her throat and bodice a bit,
 and both sides of her cloak
 were pulled back to the sides. 4532
 Do you know what became her most?
 She left her face uncovered this time.
 She had one hand on the laces of her cloak,
 and the other held the reins. 4536
 You may be sure that those she spoke to
 swore that she had the voice of an angel.
 All the rich townspeople at the exchange
 went up to meet her; 4540
 many in their hearts warmly praised
 her modesty and her bearing.
 They said, "In all the kingdom of France
 this woman would never find her equal." 4544
 You could easily have cut the purses
 of all those who stood there gaping at her.
 The horses' gear was fair and jingling,
 of the knights who escorted her; 4548
 and all the noble ladies who were
 in the balconies, in grey squirrel and miniver,
 would have loved to have a smile from her.
 As she rode on, greeting them, 4552
 the townswomen asked, "What is our emperor
 waiting for, if he wants a wife?
 Lord! Let him take this lady!"

- p [or] ce qel crient qel ni faille 4556
 s achiez devoir sanz devilaile
 E nest.i.poi en esmaiance
 S i vos di p[or] voir ca maiance
 F u apportez li p[re]miers mais 4560
 o r refet bon savoir huimes
 Q [ue]lvie il maintenant el palais
 l en i chante et sons et lais
 L i menestrel de mainte t[er]re 4564
 Q ui erent venu p[or] aq[ue]rre.
 d etroies la bele doete
 I chantoit ceste chanconete
 Q uant revient la seson que lerbe 4568
 reverdoie que droiz est et reson
 quelen deduire doie. seuls aloie
 si pensoie as noviaus sons q[ue] ge
 soloie.touse gaie o ses moutons.tro
 vai sanz [con]pegnons ou sesbanoie a
 ses chancons. gente ert sa facons
 chevex q[ue] venz baloie. avoit so
 rez et blons-----oooooooo-----oooooooo
 7 et uns autres de chaalons 4584
 Q [ui] ot vestu.i.biau drap vert
 R echante dautre p[ar]t cest v[er]s
 A mours a non ciz maus q[ui] me tor
 mente.mes nest pas teuls co[m] lesau
 tres gent lont.sest bien resons que
 li miens cuers sen sente.qui set m[ou]t
 bien coment on len respont.et ge
 di las mi mal quant fineront
 ne ia ihesus fenir ne mes con
 sente.sapres les mauls li bien
 gregnor nen sont.
 D une chambre ouli baron sont 4594
 oi lemp[er]eres cest vers
 C om ses pensers estoit divers 4596
 D e ciaus quil avoit assamblez [f. 93 r 1]
 S ili est ses solaz emblez
 Q [ui]lne set quil die ne face
 S ili pert m[ou]t bien asa face 4600
 Q [ui]l namenda.xv.iorsa
 l a damoisele se segna
 Q [ua]nt el est en lacort entree

Precisely because she was afraid she wouldn't
be able to make him take her, you can be sure
that she was a little apprehensive. 4556

I can tell you for sure
that May Day came to Mainz that day. 4560

Now it's time again to hear
what they were up to at the palace:
the minstrels, who had come there
from many lands to earn some money, 4564
were singing songs and lays.

Fair Doete of Troyes

was singing this little song there:

When the season returns, and the grass
is green again, and it is right and proper
to enjoy oneself, I was walking alone
and thinking about new songs as I often did.

I found merry Touse with her sheep,
without any company, where she entertained herself
with her songs. Her manners were dainty;
her hair, which the wind was blowing,
was fair and blonde.

Elsewhere another, from Châlon-sur-Marne, 4584
who was dressed in a beautiful green,
for his part sang this song:

This pain which torments me
is called Love; but it is not like
the love that others feel,
and it is quite right that my heart protest,
who knows full well how it has been answered.
And I say, "Alas! When will my sorrows end?
But may Jesus never let them end,
if after the pain
the blessings are not greater.

From a chamber where the lords were gathered 4594
the emperor heard this song.

How different were his thoughts 4596
from those of the ones he had summoned!

His delight had been stolen away
so that he didn't know what to say or do;
and it's clear to see from his face 4600
that he has not recovered in these two weeks.

The maiden crossed herself
when she entered the court.

T	ex.ccc.lont audoi moustree	4604
Q	[ui] ne seve[n]t pas so[n] esmai	
A	inz dient tuit vez mai vez mai	
Q	[ue] cil due ch[evalie]r amainent	
t	ot entor li g[ra]nt ioie mainent	4608
Q	[ue] quele descent au perron	
I	lli corent a lesperon	
et	damoisel et escuier	
p	lus en i ot bien dun millier	4612
d	ech[evalie]rs de hanz lignages	
et	desloges et des estages	
A	valent dou palais marbre	
t	uit esbahi et esmarbre	4616
t	ex puceles soelent venir	
C	a en arrier por esbaudir	
a	la court le bon roi artu	
F	ont cil qui tienent a vertu	4620
o	u a mout bel enchantement	
L	i ch[evalie]r mout belement	
m	enee lont au grant pales	
E	l ne vit ce cuit onq[ue]s mes	4624
t	ant de si beles genz ensamble	
t	oz li monz cele part assamble	
o	uli ch[evalie]r lont assise	
C	il ples et cele grant assise	4628
l	i ramentoivent son biau frere	
Q	[ui] por le g[ra]nt pris dont il ere	
D	e pr[oe]ce et de hardement	
o	tli sires tel parlement	4632
A	ssamble por lui fere honor	
et	si lamoit de tel amor	
Q	[ui]lla voloit p[re]ndre a moullier	
p	[or] celi fet les oils moullier	4636
d	e chaudes lermes la pitiez	
E	le sencline v[er]s ses piez	
d	efoiz a autre si sospire	
u	ns g[ra]nz bars li sires de pire	4640
et	maint autre en ont pitie	
S	i vos di q[ue] p[or] samistie	
E	ni plor[er]ent plus de.c.	[f. 93 r 2]
L	eve qui des iex li descent	4644
N	e la fesoit sembelir non	
C	il chanteor ne lor chancon	

The three hundred people who pointed at her 4604
 didn't realize her anxiety;
 instead they all cried, "Behold the May, behold the May,
 which these two knights are leading in!"
 All around her everyone rejoiced 4608
 as she stepped down onto the mounting-block;
 both young men and squires
 ran to her stirrups.
 There were over a thousand 4612
 knights of high degree;
 and from the balconies and the upper floors
 of the marble palace they descended,
 all astonished and dumbstruck. 4616
 "Such maidens used to come
 a long time ago, to delight
 the court of good King Arthur,"
 they all said, considering it a miracle 4620
 or a wonderful enchantment.
 The knights very graciously led her
 into the great palace;
 She had never before, I think, seen 4624
 so many handsome people together.
 Everyone assembled near
 where the knights had seated her.
 This gathering and the great assembly 4628
 reminded Lienor of her fair brother,
 because of whose great renown
 for prowess and valor
 his lord had summoned this council 4632
 to do honor to him,
 and how Conrad had loved Guillaume so dearly
 that he wanted to take her to wife.
 Thinking of this, pity made her eyes 4636
 well up with hot tears.
 She bent her head down low,
 and from time to time she sighed.
 A great nobleman, the lord of Speyer, 4640
 took pity on her, and many others.
 I tell you, for love of her
 over a hundred of them there wept.
 The tears that fell from her eyes 4644
 only made her even more beautiful.
 Neither the singers nor their songs

N	ela poent esleecier	
S	i oi ele [con]mencier	4648
I	ceste chancon auvrignace	
S	ene fust cil cui diex mal face	
Q	[ui] la cuida desloiauter	
m	[ou]t seust bien cest vers chant[er]	4652
B	ele mest la voiz altane.del roissillol el pascor.Q[ue] foelle est verz blanche flor et lerbe nest enla sane.dont rav[er]dissent cil vergier.et ioi mamor tel mestier que cors me garist et sane.	
A	poi queli rois ne forsane	4660
e	n lautre sale ou il estoit	
N	ule riens ne le [con]fortoit	
Q	[ue]n li die nen fet nen chant	
I	loit les barons tieschant	4664
Q	[ui] sont devant lui a [con]cire	
N	ede ce quil lor cuida dire	
N	elor osoit soner.i.mot	
o	r sachiez q[ue] pas ne lamot	4668
C	il qui li a fet tel anui	
I	l satendoient tuit alui	
Q	[ui]llor desist ou.i.ou el	
o	u feist dire a son mortel	4672
t	raitor qui ce li ot fet	
Q	[ue] quil estoit en tel dehet	
M	[ou]t dolenz et m[ou]t des[con]fiz	
S	eant soz.i.g[ra]nt arc voutiz	4676
E	z vos le segnor de nivele	
Q	ui li aporte la novele	
S	ire fetal vosne savez	
P	uis cele heure q[ue] dex funez	4680
N	eis au tens leroi artur	
N	e sai se cest par vostre eur	
N	avint ausi bele aventure	
C	ecuit de nule creature	4684
c	o[m] il ala fors avenu.	
D	e qoi? que il i a venu	
u	ne m[er]velle tote droite	
l	a plus bele et la plus adroite	4688
N	esai se cest ou fee ou fame	
m	es oumarchie naremez ame	
A	inz lont tuit a procession	[f. 93 v 1]

could cheer her,
 when she heard them begin 4648
 this song from Auvergne.
 Had it not been for that man
 who slandered her--God punish him!--
 she could well have sung this song: 4652
 Sweet to me is the high song of the nightingale *
 at Easter, when leaves are green and flowers white
 and the grass grows in the meadow, whose orchards
 turn green again. If my love could flourish so,
 it would cure and heal me.
 The king was nearly going crazy 4660
 in the other room, where he was;
 nothing they said to him could comfort him,
 neither deeds nor songs.
 He heard the lords speaking Flemish, 4664
 who had come to his council,
 and he did not dare to say one word
 of what he had meant to tell them.
 You may be sure that he who had done this 4668
 to Conrad was no friend to him.
 They were all waiting for him
 to say something or other to them,
 or to have it said by that mortal traitor 4672
 who had done this to him.
 While he was in such despair,
 sorrowful and disconsolate,
 seated under a great vaulted arch, 4676
 the lord of Nivelles came in
 who brought him the news:
 "Lord," he said, "have you heard?
 From the hour of God's birth, 4680
 not even in the time of King Arthur
 (perhaps because of your lucky star!),
 was there such a wonderful adventure,
 I do believe, involving any creature 4684
 like the one who has arrived outside."
 "What?" "A downright marvel
 has arrived, the loveliest
 and the most perfect woman. 4688
 I don't know whether she's a fairy or a mortal,
 but not a soul remains at the marketplace--
 they've all escorted her here

A	menee dune meson	4692
d	usq[ue]n cest g[ra]nt pales lahors	
Q	[ua]nt lemp[er]eres loi lors	
I	l ne fust si liez p[or] mil mars.	
N	esai se cest ou voirs ou gas	4696
m	es il le feroit bon savoir	
S	ila menti ouil dit voir	
F	etli seneschaus alonsi	
o	ez doudeable anemi	4700
c	o[m] il vet chacant sa g[ra]nt honte	
F	etli rois ou li toz en monte	
I	e lo bien q[ue] nos i aillon	
I	l ne qu[er]oit fors ochoison	4704
Q	[ue] li parlemenz remainsist	
d	e la seleva ouil sist	
S	en vet gr[an]t pas vers le pales	
et	tuit li haut baron apres	4708
S	i dolente si exploree	
	com ele ert la p[re]uz la senee	
Q	[ue] por soi q[ue] por son bon frere	
E	rroment q[ue] li emp[er]ere	4712
I	ssi dou [con]seil de la chambre	
C	ele q[ui] nert torte ne chambre	
A	visa bien li qex cestoit	
p	or lusage qui tex estoit	4716
E	le p[re]nt dou mantel latache	
Q	[ue] quel loste dou col et sache	
S	i len[con]bra si li mantiaus	
Q	[ue]le hurte as p[re]miers c[re]tiaus	4720
Q	[ue]le avoit fet en sa touaille	
l	e hordeis et la ventaille	
E	nporta ius o tot le heaume	
V	oiant les barons dou roiaume	4724
S	i que sa crigne blonde et sore	
S	on biau samit inde lidore	
p	[ar] espaulles et pres dou col	
D	es le tenz mon segnor saint pol	4728
N	e fu plus bele por solas	
E	le haoit tant son solas	
Q	[ue] neli chaloit de trecier	
M	es p[or] seschevolz adrecier	4732
o	t drecie sa greve au matin	
d	une branche de porc espin	

in a procession from a house
up to the great hall outside." 4692

When the emperor heard this news,
a thousand marks couldn't have made him happier.
"I don't know whether it's truth or jest, 4696
but it would be good to know
whether he lied or told the truth,"
said the seneschal; "let's go there."

Hear how this fiendish devil 4700
went chasing after his own shame!
Said the king to everyone there,
"I suggest that we go there."

He asked nothing better than a pretext 4704
for putting off the council.

He rose from where he was sitting
and went striding toward the hall,
with all the noble lords after him. 4708

As sorrowful, as tearful
as Lienor was, both for herself
and for her good brother,
the noble girl, who was neither bent nor misshapen, 4712
knew which one was the emperor
as soon as he issued forth
from his private council.

According to the custom of the time, 4716
she took hold of her cloak's fastening,
and as she pulled it off her shoulders
it got entangled so that the cloak
hit the folds she had made 4720
in her cloth headdress.

The defenses and the ventail *
came down with the entire helmet
before all the lords of the realm, 4724
so that her fair blond hair
gilded the dark blue samite
on her shoulders and at her throat.

Since the time of my lord Saint Paul 4728
there had never been a more beautiful woman.

She had been so eager to vindicate herself
that she had not bothered to braid her hair;
rather, to dress her hair that morning 4732
she had straightened her part
with a branch of buckthorn,

et si ot fet front deheaumiere
 S ot chapelet ala maniere 4736
 A s puceles de son pais [f. 93 v 2]
 S ot flocelez aval levis
 d e ses biaux cheveux ondoianz
 L i chapelez li fu aidanz 4740
 Q [ui] li fu unpoi loig des iex
 et nature p[or] veoir miex
 S on biau front li ot tret arr[ier]e
 S i des[con]fite en tel maniere 4744
 S e let cheoir as piez le roi
 C ele q[ui] ne savoit son roi
 S i li crie p[or] deu m[er]ci!
 h a!bele levez vos deci 4748
 F et lemp[er]ere ormavez mort
 N on ferai voir na droit na tort
 a incois i serai trusq[ua] none
 S e sor lonor de la corone 4752
 o rendroit ne me creantez
 Q [ue] vos droiture me ferez
 o rendroit caupie maintenant
 b ele fet il gevos creant. 4756
 i ane voudrez que ge ne face
 L orsli preste sabele brace
 S i laide a lever sus
 E le se tret un poi ensus 4760
 D e lui si fist auques q[ue] sage
 D evant les barons dou barnage
 S edement adeu et [con]plaint
 D e pitie en ont plore maint 4764
 D el[er]mes qui son biau vis muelle
 Q [ue]lotbel et simple a m[er]velle
 et le col plus blanc q[ue] nest nois
 S i vos dit selefust aslois 4768
 .v. anz toz plains sanz remouvoir
 C e sachiez de fi et de voir
 I e ne sai p[or] coi ne coment
 E le peust plus belement 4772
 S on claim dire ne son afere
 F et lagentils la debonere
 G entils emp[er]ere honorez
 p[or] deu biau sire or mentendez 4776
 S i mait dex q[ue] mestiers mest

showing her forehead like an armouress, *
 and put on a gold circlet after the fashion 4736
 of the girls of her country,
 with curls of beautiful wavy hair
 flowing down on both sides of her face.
 The gold circlet became her, 4740
 set well above her eyes;
 and Nature, to better show off her beautiful forehead,
 had drawn the circlet even further back.
 Thus disconsolate, and looking like this 4744
 she let herself fall at the king's feet,
 hardly knowing what she was doing,
 and cried out, "For God's sake, mercy!"
 "Ah, fair one, arise," 4748
 said the emperor, "you have slain me!"
 "No, I shall not, for right or wrong;
 I will stay here until nones,
 unless on the honor of your crown 4752
 you swear to me at once
 that I will receive justice
 immediately, here and now."
 "Fair one," he said, "I swear it; 4756
 you will never ask anything that I will not do."
 He offered her his noble arm,
 and helped her to stand up.
 She drew away from him 4760
 a bit; this was wise on her part.
 Before the lords of his empire
 she made her complaint and lamented to God.
 Many there wept from pity 4764
 at the tears which wet her fair face,
 exquisitely beautiful and innocent,
 and her neck whiter than snow.
 I tell you, if she had been in court 4768
 for five years on end,
 you may be very sure
 that I don't see how on earth
 she could have pressed her charges 4772
 or made her case any better.
 Noble and courteous Lienor said,
 "Noble honored emperor,
 before God, fair sire, hear me now, 4776
 for I greatly need it, so help me God.

I	l fu.i.iors qui passez est	
Q	[ue] cil la vostres seneschaus	
l	ors le mostre as emp[er]iaus	4780
v	int en.i.lieu p[ar] aventure	
o	u ge fesoie macousture	
S	i me fist m[ou]t let et out[ra]ge	[f. 94 r 1]
Q	[ui]l me toli mon pucelage	4784
et	ap[re]s cele g[ra]nt ledure	
S	i ma tolue ma ceinture	
et	maumosniere et mon fermal	
i	cedemant au seneschal	4788
et	monor et mo[n] pucelage	
et	de mes ioiaus le damage	
A	tant setest si ne dit mot	
	lemp[er]ere q[ui] mout lamot	4792
S	i resgarde le seneschal	
Q	[ui] tot ce ne prisoit.i.aïl	
A	inz le tien a borde et a songe	
c	o[m] ce q[ui] tot estoit menconge	4796
C	e savoit ele plus q[ue] nus	
F	et lemp[er]ere il ni a plus	
S	eneschal or vos en alez	
C	onsellier ou vos responez	4800
o	rendroit ci.selonc son claim	
o	nq[ue]s mes voir noi reclaim	
Q	[ue] vos feissiez tel out[ra]ge	
F	et il oiant tot son barnage	4804
I	e nen irai ia aconseil	
I	ames dex ne me doi[n]t cest sueil	
p	asser se onq[ue]s mes lavi	
et	sachiez bien q[ue]ge li ni	4808
Q	[ue] onq[ue]s noi son pucelage	
N	e ses ioiaus a son damage	
N	e ceinture ne affichaus.	
O	ez que dit li seneschaus	4812
F	et lemp[er]ere il levos nie	
C	ertes sire cest vilonie	
m	iexli venist dire tot el	
i	a nistra hors de cest ostel	4816
Q	[ue] il ira tot aut[re]ment	
S	ev[ost]re cort ne se desment	
B	ons rois p[or] dieu ne vos g[ri]et mie	
	vos dites ci quil le me nie	4820

It was one day some time ago
 that this man here, your seneschal"--
 and here she pointed him out to the emperor-- 4780
 "came by chance to a place
 where I was doing my sewing.
 He did me great harm and offense,
 for he took my virginity. 4784
 And after that great outrage,
 he also took my belt
 and my alms-purse and my brooch.
 Here I demand of the seneschal 4788
 recompense for my honor
 and my virginity and my treasures."
 At this she fell silent, and said not a word.
 The emperor, who cherished her, 4792
 looked at the seneschal,
 who was completely unmoved by all of this;
 rather he considered it a lie and a dream,
 since it was wholly untrue. 4796
 (Lienor knew this better than anyone!)
 The emperor said, "That is all;
 seneschal, now either go you to counsel,
 or stay and answer here and now 4800
 this maiden's accusation.
 I have never heard it said of you
 that you committed such an outrage."
 He answered, in the hearing of all the lords, 4804
 "I will never go to counsel.
 May God never let me cross this threshold
 again, if I've ever seen her before!
 Understand well that I deny it, 4808
 for I never took her virginity
 or her treasures to her harm,
 neither a belt nor a brooch."
 "You hear what the seneschal says," 4812
 said the emperor; "he denies your claim."
 "Truly, sire, this is very bad;
 he should have said something quite different.
 He shall never leave this place 4816
 until it goes otherwise,
 if your court doesn't fail in its duty.
 Good king, for God's sake, do not be angry:
 you say that he denies my accusation, 4820

Q	[ui]l onques not mon pucelage	
et	dit [con]ques a mon damage	
N	ot mon ioial nema ceinture	
S	avez vosde quele feture	4824
C	ele ceinture estoit ouvree	
E	l estoit defin or broudee	
a	poissonez et a oisiaus	
et	sachiez queli affichaus	4828
v	aloit encore bones nois	[f. 94 r 2]
I	l i a un rubi balois	
Q	[ui] vaut encore.xiii.l[ivres]	
N	est pas encore toz delivres	4832
l	i seneschaus bienlesachiez	
m	esor alez et si sachiez	
S	es draz amont et sa chemise	
S	i verrez quil la ceinte et mise	4836
t	ot nuanu emp[re]s sa char	
S	e ce nest voirs fetes.i.char	
t	ornoier p[ar] desus mon cors	
S	i v[er]rez maumosniere entors	4840
C	e sachiez au tiessu pendue.	
p	[ar] tens avra mestier daiue	
L	i seneschaus ce mest avis.	
o	r li taint et palist li vis	4844
p	[or] sa parole qui empire	
d	ex font li baron de lempire	
c	om est malbailliz se cest voirs	
C	estes cefu g[ra]nz estrelois	4848
S	il en puet estre pris provez	
S	ire sor ce q[ue] vos mavez	
c	reante a fere droiture	
f	etes gard[er] a la ceinture	4852
S	i medelivrez sanz aloigne	
l	iarcevesq[ue]s de couloigne	
E	stoit la ou cils claims fu fais	
P	ieca q[ue] mes nuls autez plais	4856
S	ire navint en v[ost]re cort	
I	lcovient cest respit mout cort	
p	[or] essayer sela voir dit	
S	anz delai et sanz [con]tredit	4860
o	ubien li poist ou mal li sache	
u	ns ch[evalie]rs li tret et sache	
l	arobe amont et lachemise	

that he never took my virginity,
 and says that never to my harm
 did he take my jewels or my belt.
 Do you know with what design 4824
 that belt was worked?
 It was embroidered in fine gold
 with little birds and fishes;
 and you should know that the brooch 4828
 was also worth a fair amount;
 it had a red ruby
 worth more than thirteen pounds.
 The seneschal is not yet 4832
 entirely free, believe me.
 Go now and pull up
 his clothing and his shirt:
 you will see that he has tied the belt 4836
 onto his bare skin, on his very flesh.
 If this is not true, then have a cart
 driven over my body.
 You will also see my alms-purse 4840
 hanging from the belt, I assure you."
 The seneschal will very soon
 need help, I do believe!
 His face reddened and grew pale 4844
 at her words, for this was becoming serious.
 "God!" cried the lords of the empire,
 "he is in trouble, if it is true!
 Certainly it's a serious crime, 4848
 if it can be proven that he did it."
 "Sire, by the oath you took
 to grant me justice,
 have them look for the belt, 4852
 and give me justice without delay."
 The archbishop of Cologne
 was there when this claim was made:
 "For a long time, sire, no such claim 4856
 has been made in your court.
 We must brook no delay
 to see whether she has spoken the truth."
 Without delay and without contention, 4860
 whether it pleased or pained him,
 a knight took the seneschal and pulled up
 his tunic and his shirt, so that everyone saw

Q	[ue] chas[cun]s vit quil lavoit mise	4864
et	cainte estroit a sachar nue	
S	i fu la chose coneue	
Q	[ui]l ni covint champ ne bataille	
G	ardez lebien quil ne sen aille	4868
F	et lemp[er]eres sor voz iex	
a	s.x.barons sages et viex	
l	e [con]mande sor q[ua]nquil ont	
D	ou gard[er] si chier co[m] il ont	4872
et	lors vies et lor avoires	
G	en sui toz dolanz fet li rois	
p	[or] ce que il ma bien servi	[f. 94 v 1]
h	a!se deu plect font si ami	4876
S	i li parra a son besoig	
N	est mie mestiers q[ue] ialoig	
C	est afere de moz oiseus	
m	[ou]t en sont les genz angoisseus	4880
L	i baron de cele ceinture	
F	ont li un detele feture	
E	n porroit len assez trover	
N	uls ne savroit par ce prover	4884
Q	[ue] il deust estre destruis	
N	on fust il ne fust li anuis	
D	e la honte et dou pucelage	
Q	[ue] des ioiaus et dou damage	4888
p	eust il bien venir a chief	
t	uit li baron de chief enchief	
E	n vont proier lemp[er]eor	
I	a nen voudrez sauve lonor	4892
l	a pucele que ge nen face.	
N	est pas reson qenle defface	
F	ont il p[or] itel ochoison	
F	et li rois tot ce na foison	4896
I	enen prendroie dor mil mars	
Q	[ui]l nen fust trainez ou ars	
E	st or ma terre abandonee	
N	e li avoie pas donee	4900
p	[or] tels ioiaus seneschaucie	
L	adamoisele len mercie	
Q	[ue]le oit bien quil li fera droit	
A	u seneschal revont totdroit	4904
S	il li dient quil se [con]seilt	
m	al de la cort ou len ne let	

that he had put on the belt 4864
 and girded it tight to his bare skin.
 The matter was clear, and there was no need
 for trial by ordeal or by battle.
 "Guard him well, so that he doesn't escape," 4868
 said the emperor, "by your eyes."
 He commanded ten wise, mature lords
 to guard the man, by all they had,
 if they valued their lives 4872
 and their possessions.
 "I am very sorry for this," said the king,
 "because he has always served me well."
 The seneschal's friends said, "Ah, if it please God, 4876
 that fact will help him in his need!"
 There is no need for me to draw out
 this business with idle words.
 The entire court, all the lords, 4880
 were troubled by the evidence of the belt.
 Some said, "You can find
 any number of belts of that kind.
 No one would be able to prove by that 4884
 that he must be executed!
 And he would not be, were it not for the problem
 of the maiden's shame and her virginity;
 for the loss of her treasures 4888
 could easily have been made good."
 All the lords went one after another
 to entreat the emperor, who said,
 "You will never ask me anything 4892
 which I will not do, saving only the maiden's honor."
 They said, "It is not right
 to kill him for such a reason."
 The king answered, "All this is pointless. 4896
 Not for a thousand marks of gold
 would I keep him from being drawn and quartered
 or burned! Is my land abandoned by law?
 I did not make him seneschal 4900
 so that he could take such jewels!"
 The maiden thanked him for his words,
 for she heard that he would give her justice.
 They all went back to the seneschal, 4904
 and told him to take counsel.
 "A curse on the court where a man

F	et il.i.home p[ar]iurer	
I	eli feroie iajurer	4908
S	il voloit a.c.chevaliers	
Q	[ue] ciz maus et ciz en[con]briers	
m	est venuz par enchantement	
c	ar ge ne sai certainement	4912
S	ele fu soe la ceinture	
m	es por deu et por norreture	
p	[or] ma deserte et por mamor	
m	e face encore tant donor	4916
Q	[ue] de ce q[ue] ie mis en ni	
Q	[ue] onq[ue]s mes ior ne lavi	
N	e ne quis honte ne out[ra]ge	
N	e ne forcai son pucelage	4920
Q	[ui]l menlet purgier parjuise	[f. 94 v 2]
E	nguerredon de mon servise	
et	segen ce sanz plus atendre	
E	schieue si me face pendre	4924
I	ce li mant par vos et pri	
m	out le regretent a haut cri	
S	i [con]pegnon et sa mesnie	
h	alasse gent des[con]seillie	4928
F	ont il entrax que ferons nos	
m	[ou]t somes mort q[ua]nt nuls de nos	
N	el puet deffendre par son cors	
S	es vairs ses griz ses g[ra]nz tresor	4932
N	os ert toziors abandonez	
l	es destriers quil nos a donez	
l	i ont couste plus de.m.mars	
o	r sera traitez ou ars	4936
c	il qui ne la pas deservi	
o	nc mes en.i.ostel nevi	
p	[or].i.home tant gent dolente	
N	ez la pucele sen demente	4940
Q	[ue]li cuide avoir g[ra]nt pechie	
p	[or] ce qel lavoit porchacie	
L	i baron sont venu arriere	
	totz en plorant font la proiere	4944
l	e seneschal agenoillons	
F	ont il por deu et por ses nons	
F	ace por auls ce quil diront	
p	[ar] mi tot ce quil garderont	4948
S	a segnorie et sa droiture	

is not allowed to speak!" he cried.

*

"I could make a hundred knights swear,
if the king desired, that this evil
and this misfortune have come
upon me through enchantment.

4908

For I do not know for certain
that the belt was hers;

4912

but, by God and by our childhood together,
by my service and my devotion,
let him at least do me such honor that,
to all that I here declare--

4916

that I never saw her before,
and that I never wrought her shame and harm,
and that I never forced her virginity--
he let me swear in an ordeal,
in recognition of my service;
and if I should fail, then let him
have me hanged at once!

4924

Through you I ask and pray him for this."
His companions and his household
lamented all this loudly:

"Oh, wretched unfortunate people,"
they asked each other, "what shall we do?"

4928

We are ruined, when no one among us
is allowed to defend him in a trial by combat.
He has always given to us generously
of his squirrel furs, his miniver, his treasures;
the chargers he gave to us
cost him over a thousand marks.

4932

Now the one who never deserved such treatment
will be torn apart or burned."

4936

Never before have I seen so many people
in one place so sorrowful for any man:
even the maiden was remorseful,
and thought herself most sinful,
for accusing him in court.

4940

*

The barons came back again:
weeping, on their knees,

4944

they relayed the seneschal's entreaty.
They said that, by God and His holy name,
the emperor should grant them what they asked,
on the condition that they uphold
his lordship and his justice;

4948

m	es onq[ue]sde tele aventure	
N	us diax navoit oi parl[er]	
L	i oeil enpristrent a larmer	4952
a	lemp[er]eor de pitie	
p	[or] ce quil lavoit sanz faintie	
m	[ou]t bien servi et longuement	
S	egnor nen doutez de noient	4956
F	et lemp[er]eres mes sachiez	
m	iex vousisse estre alez nuz piez	
o	utremmer quil fust venu	
c	ep[or] quil estoient venu	4960
l	i distrent a cors moz briement	
Q	[ue]lle par son enchantement	
L	i tresgeta cele ceinture	
et	tant en est de tel feture	4964
Q	en en troeve par tot assez	
S	i ne seroit pas votre sez	
Q	[ue] por ce le deffeissiez	[f. 95 r 1]
S	i vos prions que souffrissiez	4968
d	ou p[re]mier ni quil fist orains	
Q	[ui]l onq[ue]s ne devant ne ains	
F	ors cest ior ne lavoit veue	
N	enatoucha a sa char nue	4972
d	ont ele fust pas empirie	
S	i seroit la chose esclairie	
S	il sen espurjoit par juise	
E	nguerredon deson servise	4976
I	cevos prie et nos por lui	
G	e nel feroie por nului	
S	e nestoit por la damoisele	
t	uit lenvont lors au pie que ele	4980
et	p[or] deu et por auls en face	
t	ant quel ait lor cuer et lor g[ra]ce	
t	uit len tendent les mai[n]s amont	
h	a!dame male fet qui confont	4984
c	e dont il puet estre au deseure.	
t	ant li prient et corent seure	
Q	[ue]llor otroie bonement	
et	prie deu si fetement	4988
c	om el ni a deservi p[er]te	
Q	[ui]l i face miracle aperte	
p	[ar] laienz dient tuit amen.	
L	emp[er]eres m[ou]t durement	4992

never before had they heard
 of such a thing as this.
 The emperor's eyes began to fill 4952
 with tears of pity,
 because the seneschal had long served him
 well and without negligence.
 Conrad said, "Lords, you must not doubt it 4956
 for a moment, but believe me
 that I would rather have gone barefoot
 overseas than to have had this happen."
 In brief words they told him 4960
 what they had come to say,
 that she, by her sorcery,
 had thrown that belt around him,
 which was in any case of a design 4964
 that could easily be found anywhere.
 "It could not please you
 to destroy him on account of this;
 and we beg you to allow him 4968
 to solemnly swear to his first statement,
 that never, either soon or late,
 excepting today, had he seen her
 or touched her bare skin 4972
 in such a way that she would be harmed.
 Everything would be cleared up
 if he could establish his innocence by an ordeal.
 In recompense for his long service 4976
 he prays you, as do we on his behalf."
 "I would not do it for anyone,
 except for the maiden herself."
 So they all went to her feet, asking 4980
 her to do, for God's sake and theirs,
 what would earn her their hearts and their favor.
 They all reached up their hands to her:
 "Ah, lady, that one does ill who destroys 4984
 what he might be the master of."
 They begged her and clamored so
 that she kindly granted their wish,
 and earnestly prayed to God 4988
 to perform a public miracle,
 since she did not deserve her injury.
 All who were there said "Amen!"
 The emperor was most heartily glad 4992

s en esioi de cest otroi
 et tuit li [con]pegnon leroi
P uis ni ot onq[ue]s point darrest
 li juises fu lues tot prest 4996
 A u moustier mon segnor s[aint] pierre
 Q [ui] ert coverz de fuelle dierre
 t uit i viennent p[ri]nce et demaine
 et li seneschaus qen amaine 5000
 et la pucele vint ovoeqes
 p arle [con]seil des arcevesques
 p [or] veoir la bone droiture
 A g[ra]nt honte p[or] sa ceinture 5004
 F uli seneschaus esgardez
 l ues droit quil fu laienez entrez
 E n leve q[ui] estoit segniee
 l ues droit plus tost qune coigniee 5008
 S envet au fons t[re]stoz li cors
 S i que labele lienors
 v it quil fu sauz et tuit li autre
 Q [ue] furent dune part et dautre 5012
 E ntor la cuve atropele [f. 95 r 2]
 l iclerc en ont m[ou]t deu loe
 E nlor chanz et en sains soner
 A g[ra]nt ioie fu remenez 5016
 d evant lemp[er]eor arriere
 Q ui sen est destrange meniere
 E sijoiz et t[re]stuit li autre.
 l a pucele triez.i.triez autre 5020
 S i est ou pales revenue
 m [ou]t est bien la chose avenue
 S i com el lavoit p[ro]posee
 E l ne sest nes point reposee 5024
 A inz vet devant lemp[er]eor
 Q [ui] est liez de la g[ra]nt honor
 Q [ue] dex a au seneschal fete
 A ce que chas[cun]s se rehetee 5028
 S achiez ne pensoit ele point
 m es aladolor qui lapoint
 a u cuer por lamor son biau frere.
 D amoisele fet lemp[er]ere 5032
 o r est li seneschaus delivres.
 C il dont li c[le]rc chantent es livres
 F et la gentils la debonaire

of this concession,
and so were all his companions.

There was no further delay;
the trial by ordeal took place at once
in the church of my lord Saint Peter,
which was covered with ivy. *
4996

They all went there, princes and nobles,
and the seneschal, who was led there;
and the maiden went with them
on the advice of the archbishop,
to see that fair justice was done. 5000

Because of the belt the seneschal
was looked at with great hostility. 5004

As soon as he entered
the water, which had been blessed,
his entire body sank to the bottom
faster than any stone, 5008
so that fair Lienor saw *

that he was saved, and all the others
who were gathered on one side
or the other of the basin. 5012

The clerics praised God for it,
with song and with the sound of bells.
With great joy the seneschal was led
back into the emperor's presence, 5016

who was completely overjoyed,
as were all the others.

The maiden returned
to the palace at once; 5020

the whole thing was turning out very well,
just as she had planned.

She did not wait even a minute,
but rather went before the emperor,
who was delighted with the great honor
which God had shown to the seneschal. 5024

She was not even thinking
about everyone's rejoicing, 5028

but rather of the pain which struck her
to the heart on her fair brother's account.

"Maiden," said the emperor,
"the seneschal is free now." 5032

"He whom clerics praise in books,"
said gentle, noble Lienor,

S	et bien tels cortoisies fere	5036
et	aidier ciaus q[ui] a bien tende[n]t	
o	r proiez voz genz quil mentende[nt]	
P	or deu sire oiez la parclose	
	le sui la pucele a larose	5040
l	a suer a mon segnor Guill[ame]	
Q	ui lonor de v[ost]re roiaume	
m	avoit quise p[ar] sa proece	
a	ce dire ot m[ou]t grant destrece	5044
Q	[ui] toz li vis li cort de larmes.	
et	cil qui soit de males armes	
d	especiez si que ge levoie	
S	i fist au plessie une voie	5048
p	ar quil decut mabone mere	
Q	ui li dit tot coment il ere	
D	e la rose desor macuisse.	
b	iau sire dex ausi en puisse	5052
g	e cest ior venir au deseure	
Q	encor nel savoit a cele heure	
Q	[ue] mon frere et ma mere et gie.	
N	est m[er]velle se ge marvie	5056
Q	[ui] vos racont ici ma honte	
b	iaus sire dex font dont cil[con]te	
t	ex iot cui mout en pesa	[f. 95 v 1]
m	[er]velle fist qui ce pensa	5060
d	efere teuls desloiautez.	
S	i vint lidesloiaus provez	
Q	[ui] onq[ue]s nama mon lignage	
S	i vos a dit par son outrage	5064
Q	ue ie nestoie pas pucele	
C	il qui fist mere de sancele	
S	i men a auq[ue]s delivree	
G	en serai voir tote honoree	5068
S	e deu plect voir ainz q[ue] ge menaille	
S	e vostre cort neme fet faille	
c	ar q[ua]nt il nia ma ceinture	
S	enli eust lors fet droiture	5072
Q	[ua]nt il en fu trovez sesiz	
I	l fust lues penduz et honiz	
c	om cil qui toz estoit iugiez	
m	es as barons en prist pitiez	5076
Q	[ui] firent tant par lor p[ro]iere	
Q	[ue] toz li ples revint arriere	

"knows well how to do such courtesies
to help those who work the good. 5036
Now ask your people to listen to me.
By God, sire, hear what this means: *

I am the maiden with the rose, 5040
my lord Guillaume's sister,
for whom his prowess had won
the honor of your kingdom."
At these words she was distraught, 5044
and tears ran down her cheeks.
"And this man--may he be torn apart
with cruel weapons before my eyes!--
concocted a plan at our manor 5048
by which he deceived my good mother,
and she told him everything about
the rose on my thigh.
Fair lord God, as I may 5052
triumph this day,
no one knew it before that time
besides my brother and my mother and I!
It is no wonder if I'm almost mad, 5056
telling you of my shame in public."
"Fair Lord God!" said those counts
(and there were many
who were horrified)--"he was mad to devise 5060
such a base treachery."
"So he returned, this proven traitor
who never did love my lineage,
and told you in his impudence 5064
that I was not a virgin.
He Who made of His handmaiden His mother
has completely acquitted me of this charge.
I will be truly restored to honor, 5068
if it please God, before I leave,
if your court does not fail me;
for, when he denied my belt,
if he had been punished then 5072
when it was found upon him,
he would have been hanged and dishonored
like a man definitively judged.
But your lords took pity on him, 5076
and were so efficacious in their prayers
that all the case came back

A	ce quil ot nie et dit	
Q	[ui]l onq[ue]s mes ior ne me vit	5080
N	e ne me fist descovenue	
p	ar qoi honte me soit creue	
S	i mait dex ce ne fist mon	
C	e ont bien veu li baron	5084
Q	[ue] li iuises len sauva	
et	moi et lui.et quil nema	
d	espucelee ne honie	
S	e lonor et la segnorie	5088
d	e cest regne mest destinee	
c	este lasse ceste exploree	
Q	[ua]nt ele fet na la deserte	
p	[or] quel reson i avra perte	5092
D	e ce demant ala cort droit	
l	ors dit lemp[er]eres lues droit	
E	stes vos ce mes cuers mamie	
l	ors dit cele nen doutez mie	5096
C	e sui ge bele lienors	
I	l saut sus voiant ses genz lors	
S	i lacole ensa bele brace	
l	es biaux oils le vis et la face	5100
l	i a plus de.c.foiz besiee	
F	etil or soiez envoisiee	
Q	[ue] g[ra]nt honor vos a dex fete	
D	e la ioie qui len rehete	5104
L	i est ciz chans dou cuer volez	[f. 95 v 2]
Q	ue demandez vos q[ua]nt vos mavez	
	que demandez vos.dont ne mavez	5108
	vos.Ge ne demant rien.Se vos	
	mamez bien----oooo----oooo--	
et	li autre enont tuit chante	5112
t	endez tuit voz mains ala flor destee	
a	la flor de liz.por deu tendez i---ooo--	
C	e fu te deum laudamus	5116
	Fet lempereur or ni a plus	
o	r est la chose revelee	
p	[or] qoi ceste g[ra]nz assamblee	
I	erthui fete o vos caienz	5120
m	aint ior vos ai veu dolenz	
D	e ce q[ue] ge navoie feme	
v	os doutieez de mon roiaume	
Q	[ui]l neschaist a autre roi	5124

to the fact that he had denied it, and said
 that he had never seen me before 5080
 nor ever done me any injury
 which might bring dishonor to me.
 So help me God, that was true!
 The lords witnessed here 5084
 that the ordeal saved him,
 and me as well, and that he never
 deflowered or dishonored me.
 If the honor and the queenship 5088
 of this realm are destined for me,
 this sorrowful and tearful one,
 then why should I suffer the loss of it
 when I have done nothing to deserve it? 5092
 I ask the court for judgment on this."
 The emperor asked then and there,
 "Is it you, my heart, my love?"
 She answered, "Do not doubt it. 5096
 I am the fair Lienor."
 He leaped up, in the sight of all his people,
 and embraced her in his arms;
 he kissed her beautiful eyes 5100
 and face over a hundred times,
 and cried, "Now rejoice,
 for God has greatly honored you!"
 On account of the joy which elated him, 5104
 this song flew from his heart:
 What do you ask for, if you have me?
 What do you ask for? Don't you have me?
 --I ask for nothing,
 if you love me truly!
 And the others all sang, 5112
 Reach out your hands for the flowers of summer,
 the flowers of the lily, by God, reach out your hands!
 This was a *Te Deum laudamus*. *5116
 The emperor said, "That is all:
 now it is clear
 why you were all brought together
 today in this great assembly. 5120
 For a long time I have known you
 to be unhappy because I had no wife;
 you worried that my kingdom
 might fall to another king, 5124

Q [ui] ne seust pas si son roi
 d evos honorer et servir
 c o[m] ge faz.bien peust avenir
 N on feist il par aventure 5128
 C e q[ue]n aprent de norreture
 e st auq[ue]s legier atener
 o nq[ue]s certes de vos servir
 N oi tel talent come iai or 5132
 S i me gart dex mame et mo[n] cors
 Q [ua]nt gregnor mestiers men sera
 o rot dur cuer q[ui] ne plora
 Q uant il ot dit ceste parole. 5136
 R enomee q[ui] par tot vole
 S i mamentut ceste pucele
 p [ar] verite vos di cest cele
 Q ui iai destine ceste honor 5140
 S e vos p[or] moi et por mamor
 V olez souffrir quele soit dame
 et roine de mon roiaume
 v os estes mi segn[or] mi mestre 5144
 S i ne voel pas ne ne doit estre
 E ncor i soit ma volentez
 Q [ue] se vos ne lacreantez
 Q [ui]l aviegne na tort na droit 5148
 a cest mot les a toz lues droit
 [c on]quis.a fere son voloir
 c hascuns qui son gret veut avoir
 s ehaste doudire gel voeil 5152
 S anz plus parl[er] et sanz [con]seil
 S i acorda li [con]muns toz. [f. 96 r 1]
 l orbons sires li pieus li douz
 l or en rent.c.mile m[er]ciz. 5156
 E nondeu or sera gariz
 F et il li gentils chevaliers.
 L ors veissiez corre asdestriers
 c iaus quile vont dire son frere 5160
 o u v[er]gier son hoste ou il ere
 l e troverent tot des[con]fit
 m out parli fist poi de delit
 L i Rossignols qui li chantoit. 5164
 l a bone novele quil oit
 l i toli lues tot son anui.
 F ont ses genz il ni a meshui

who might not know his own interest well enough
 to honor and serve you as I have done.
 Indeed, it could well have happened,
 and it was only good luck that it did not. 5128
 What we learn in our childhood
 is easiest to remember.
 Certainly I was never so eager
 to serve you in this as I am now, 5132
 if God protects my body and soul
 when I shall need it most."
 It was a hard-hearted soul indeed who did not weep
 when Conrad had spoken these words. 5136
 "Fame, which travels everywhere,
 first named this maiden to me.
 I tell you truly, it is to her
 that I have destined this honor, 5140
 if you, for love of me and for my sake,
 will allow her to be the lady
 and the queen of my realm.
 You are my lords, my advisors: 5144
 if you do not wish it,
 and will not consent to it,
 then even though I do desire it
 it shall not be, rightly or wrongly." 5148
 Immediately, with these words,
 he won them over to his will;
 each man who valued the king's favor
 hastened to say, "I do so wish." 5152
 Without further discussion or consultation
 everyone agreed to the marriage.
 Their good, sweet, pious lord
 gave them a hundred thousand thanks. 5156
 "In God's name," he said, "now
 the noble knight Guillaume will be cured."
 You should have seen those who went to tell
 the lady's brother, running for their horses. 5160
 In his host's orchard, where he was sitting,
 they found him all disconsolate,
 and very little cheered
 by the nightingale singing there. 5164
 The good news he heard, however,
 banished all his sorrow at once.
 His people said, "There's nothing left

E	nondeu fors de feste faire	5168
I	l oste lues sa robe vaire	
S	or quil avoit plore mil larmes	
a	biaus escuciaus de ses armes	
E	n vesti une de samis	5172
S	en avoit p[ar] devers le pis	
l	[es] enseignes et sor les b[ra]s	
E	le fu fete a grant solas	
o	nqes navoit vestue este	5176
m	[ou]t fu legiere por este	
Q	[ue] la pene en estoit doiseaus	
h	a dex com il refu tost biaux	
A	si petit dacesmement	5180
I	l monte et ch[evalie]rs bien cent	
p	[or] sonor sor lesbiaus destriers	
Q	[ui] vont devant lui et detriers.	
N	orent pas chevauchie g[ra]nt piece	5184
Q	[ua]nt uns nies lenvesque dou liege	
Q	[ui] mout se set biau deporter	
[c	on]menca cesti a chanter.	
O	r vient pasques les beles en	5188
	avril.florissent bois cil presont	
	raverdi.cez douces eves ret[ra]ient a	
	lor fil.cil oisel chantent au soir et	
	au matin.qui amors a nes doit	
	metre en oubli.Sovent i doit et	
	aler et venir.la sentramoient Ai	
	gline et li quens Guis.Guis aime Ai	
	gline.Aigline aime Guion-----	
	Souz un chastel qen apele biau	
	cler.En mout poi deure i ot g[ra]nz	
	bauz levez.cez damoiseles i vont	
	por caroler.cil escuier i vont por bohord[er]	
	cil ch[evalie]r i vont por esgarder.vont i cez da	[f. 96 r 2]
	mes por lor cors deport[er].la bele Aigline	
	si est fete mener.Si ot vestu un bliaut	
	de cendel qui g[ra]nz.ii.aunes trainoit p[ar]	
	les prez.Guis aime Aigline.Aigline	
	aime guion-----oooo-----oooo-----	
C	este nest pas tote chantee	5208
u	ns ch[evalie]rs dela [con]tree	
D	ou parage de danmartin	
[c	on]menca cest son poitevin	

to do, in God's name, but celebrate!" 5168

Guillaume took off the robe of squirrel fur
on which he had shed a thousand tears,
and donned one of samite cloth
covered with his coat of arms, 5172
with the designs covering
the front and the sleeves.

The robe was beautifully made,
and had never yet been worn; 5176
it was very light, for summer,
and was lined with feathers.

Lord, how quickly he was fair again,
with so little adornment! 5180

He mounted, and so did at least a hundred knights,
on handsome chargers in his honor,
riding before and behind him.

They had not ridden far 5184
when a nephew of the bishop of Liege,
who well knew how to enjoy himself,
began to sing this song:

Beautiful Easter now comes in April: 5188

the woods blossom, the meadows green again,
the sweet waters return to their courses,
and the birds sing at evening and morning.

Anyone who's in love must not be absent-minded;
often he must both go there and return.

Indeed they loved each other, Aigline and Count Gui.
Gui loves Aigline, Aigline loves Gui.

Outside a castle which is called Beauclaire,
in a very short time a great dance was arranged.

The maidens go there to dance carols,
the squires go there to tilt,
the knights go there to watch;
the ladies go there to enjoy themselves.

Fair Aigline is escorted there,
and she is wearing a tunic of fine silk
which trails two ells behind her on the meadow.

Gui loves Aigline, Aigline loves Gui.

This hadn't been sung 5208

to the end, when a knight
from the area around Danmartin
began this Poitevin song:

- Q uant voi laloete moder de goi.ses ales 5212
 contre el rai.que sobete lesse cader par
 la doucor qel cor li vai.ensi grant en
 vie mest pris de ce que voi.a ma grant
 miravile est que vis del sens ne coir do[n]t
 desier non fou.ha las tant cuidoie savoir
 donor et point nen sai.pas on damer
 non pou tenir celi dont ia prou nen au[ra]i
 tol mei lor cor et tol meismes.et soi mees
 me et tol le mon.et pos tantel ne moste
 rent fors desier et cor volon.-----0000---
- Q [ua]nt cez.ii.furent bien fenies 5228
 d es bons v[er]s Gautier de saguies
 R esovint.i.bon bachelier
 s i les comenca a chanter.
- L ors que florist la bruiere 5232
 que voi les prez raverdoier
- Q ue chantent en lor maniere
 c il oisillon el ramier
 l ors sospir en mon corage 5236
 Q uant cele me fet irier
 v ers qui ma longue proiere
 N e mi pot avoir mestier
 C elui aim damor entiere 5240
 d ont iai le cuer dire plain
 L as ce mi fet estre en paine
 D ont iai le cuer dire plain-----00000----
- t rop vilainement foloie 5244
 Q [ui] ce quil aime ne crient
 et qui damors se cointoie
 S achiez quil naiment nient
 A mors doit estre si coie 5248
 l a ouele va et vient
- Q [ue] nuls nen ait duel neioie
 Se cil non q[ui] la maintient.Celui aim-----
 A la cort sen vont a g[ra]nt ioie [f. 96 v 1]
 F ont les genz qui sont enlavoie
 D iex cest lifreres laroine
 Q [ui] ceste voie ci chemine 5256
 Q [ua]nt il vint la sus ou pales
 F ont il ni ent[re]ra huimes
 P lusbel ne mellor de cestui.

- When I see the lark flutter its wings
for joy in the sunlight, and he forgets himself
and lets himself fall, for the sweetness of it
which pierces his heart, then great longing seizes me
at what I see... It's a wonder I do not go mad
or that my heart does not melt from desire.
Alas! I thought I knew so much of love,
but I know nothing of it! I can never keep myself
from loving her from whom I shall never gain happiness.
She takes my heart and myself, and herself,
and the whole world, and still she takes from me
nothing but desire and a yearning heart.
- When these two songs were finished, 5228
a good young knight recalled
these fine verses by Gautier de Soignies,
and he began to sing them:
- When the heather is in flower,
and I see the meadows turn green again,
and the little birds on the bough
sing each in his own way,
then I sigh in my heart 5236
that she makes me grieve,
she toward whom my long entreaty
cannot profit me at all.
- I love her with a complete love, 5240
and so my heart is full of grief.
Alas! it makes me suffer,
and so my heart is full of grief.
- Anyone who does not fear the one he loves 5244
would be an unworthy madman;
and anyone who boasts of loving,
you may be sure that he does not love at all.
Love must be so secret 5248
wherever it comes and goes
that no one is pleased or pained by it,
except the one who feels it. I love her...
- They went to the court in great joy. 5253
Along the way people said,
"God! That's the queen's brother
riding down the street."
When Guillaume came up to the palace, 5256
they said, "No one will enter here today
who is handsomer or better than he."

c	o[m] buer maiorna ciz iors dui	5260
F	et il.q[ua]nt ge voi ma seror	
C	ui mis sires fet tant donor	
Q	[ui] la assise lez sa coste	
D	e son biau col son mantel oste	5264
S	il vet saluer a genouls	
m	es biaux freres mes cuers mes douz	
F	et ele bien soiez venuz.	
I	l puet m[ou]t bien a tels saluz	5268
A	u[cun]e lerne avoir ploree	
m	[ou]t la com sa dame honoree	
et	si voel que vos sachiez bien	
[c	on]ques a lui de nule rien	5272
F	ors de parole natoucha	
S	i vos di q[ue] mout conticha	
A	ceuz qui garde sen sont pris	
S	es g[ra]nz senz li a ia apris	5276
Q	ue la hautece de lonor	
L	i deffendoit de sa seror	
et	la hautece et le solaz	
E	l a boutte parmi leslaz	5280
D	e son mantel son b[ra]z senestre	
m	[ou]t ert mes damoisiaus et mestre	
et	de la cort et des barons	
F	et lemp[er]ere il est saisons	5284
Q	[ue] ge paroil de mon afere	
l	oezvos que iatende a fere	
m	es noces a lascension	
j	a se deu plect fontli baron	5288
N	i au[ra] mes respit naloigne.	
S	ire fet li dus de saisoigne	
m	es enleure que dex funez	
F	etes ce que fere devez	5292
S	echascuns sen vet en sa t[er]re	
G	[ra]nt anui sera dou req[ue]rre	
N	os somes ci or assamble	
F	et larcevesq[ue]s ce me samble	5296
Q	[ui]l vos done m[ou]t bon [con]seil	
F	et lemp[er]eres et gel voeil	
Q	[ua]nt chascuns de vos si acorde	[f. 96 v 2]
a	hi!plus tire cus que corde	5300
I	a ne veut il tant nule rien	
d	epardeu fetal orva bien	

"Blessed is the day that dawned on me today," 5260
 he said, "when I see my sister,
 to whom my lord has done such honor
 that he has seated her by his side!"
 He removed his cloak from his shoulders, 5264
 and went down on his knee to greet her.
 "My fair brother, my heart, my sweet,"
 she said, "be welcome!"
 He could have shed tears 5268
 at such a greeting.
 He honored her as his lady,
 and I want you to know
 that he never touched her 5272
 with anything but words;
 and I tell you that this greatly pleased
 those who were on the lookout for it.
 Guillaume's great good sense had told him 5276
 that the high honor done her
 did not allow him familiarity
 and intimacy with his sister.
 He pushed his left arm 5280
 through the laces of his cloak,
 and was quite the young lord and master
 of the court and of its lords.
 The emperor said, "It is time 5284
 for me to speak of this business of mine.
 Do you advise me to wait until the Ascension
 to celebrate my wedding?"
 "If it please God," said the lords, 5288
 "there should be no further waiting or delay."
 "Lord," said the Duke of Saxony,
 "excepting only on Christmas,
 do what you must do. 5292
 If everyone returns to his own lands,
 it will be a bother to send for them again,
 and we are all gathered here now."
 The archbishop said, "It seems to me 5296
 that you give excellent advice."
 The emperor said, "And I do wish it,
 since you all are in agreement."
 Oh! desire is stronger than a rope-- *5300
 he'd never wanted anything so much!
 "By God," Conrad said, "then all's well,

p uis quil est avos volentez.
 o ralez sivos atornez 5304
 S ire fet il a larcevesque.
 l ors sen ala et bien.x.envesq[ue]
 r evestir a larceveschie
 p uis q[ue] dex fut nez sanz pechie 5308
 N e fu vile si estormie
 Q [ua]nt la novele fuoie
 D ela pucele qui venoit
 o rainz a cort.que dex avoit 5312
 p [ro]mis cele bonaventure
 l en manda lues g[ra]nt aleure
 D ames p[ar] tote la cite
 d ont il i ot a g[ra]nt plente 5316
 h autes femes a ch[evalie]rs
 Q [ui] mout i vindrent volentiers
 p orli acesmer et vestir
 p uis qalixandres fist atyr 5320
 l e saut dont il ot tant de p[ri]s
 N ot au cuer cai ge bien apris
 t ant de ioie comil ot la
 d undrap q[ue] une fee ouvra 5324
 F u vestue lemp[er]eriz
 I l niert ne tiessuz ne t[re]sliz
 A incois lot tot fet o agulle
 I adis une roine en puille 5328
 E n ses chambres por s[on] deduit
 E l i mist bien.vii.anz ou.viii.
 A inz que loevre fust afinee
 E insi com helaine fu nee 5332
 I estoit listoire p[or]trete
 E le meisme i fu retere
 et paris et ses frere hectors
 et prians li rois et mennors 5336
 L i bons rois q[ui] toz les biens fist
 et si com paris la ravist
 I sont dor fetes lesymages
 et si come li g[ra]nz barnages 5340
 d es griesusla vint req[ue]rre ap[re]s
 S i i fu ausi achilles
 Q ocist hector do[n]t g[ra]nz diels fu
 et si co[m] cil mistrent le fu 5344
 E n la cite et el donion [f. 97 r 1]

since you are all content.
 Now go, and get ready, lord," 5304
 he told the archbishop,
 who set off with at least ten bishops
 to don their vestments at the archbishop's palace.
 Since the day God was born without sin, 5308
 there was never a city so topsy-turvy,
 when the news spread through it
 about the maiden who had just come
 to court, to whom God 5312
 had destined this good fortune.
 Ladies were quickly sent for
 throughout the city,
 and there were a great many 5316
 noble wives of knights
 who gladly came to the castle
 to dress and adorn the bride.
 Since Alexander made the leap 5320
 at Tyre for which he is so famous,
 no man had felt, as I heard it,
 as much joy as there was there.
 In a cloth worked by a fairy 5324
 was the empress dressed.
 Its design was neither woven nor damasked;
 instead a queen of Puglia in times gone by
 had embroidered it with her needle, 5328
 in her chambers, for amusement.
 She had spent a good seven or eight years at it
 before the work was completed.
 The story of how Helen was born 5332
 was portrayed on the robe;
 she herself was pictured there,
 and Paris and his brother Hector
 and Priam the king, and Memnon, 5336
 the good king who did good deeds;
 the images of how Paris
 abducted her were all done in gold,
 as were those of the great army 5340
 of the Greeks that came to win her back.
 Achilles was also there,
 who slew Hector, which caused great sorrow;
 and it showed how those who had secretly 5344
 been placed inside the wooden horse

Q	en avoit repost a larron	
e	s chevax de fust et tapis	
E	nce quil iut sor les tapis	5348
D	esroubee fu la navie	
D	es grieus [...]or nest en vie	
h	o[m] qui si biau d[ra]p seust faire	
l	apene niert grise ne vaire	5352
A	inz ert soef fleranz et fine	
d	e noirs sebelins et dermine	
t	ot ondoiant de lun enlautre	
m	[ou]t se pot bien [con]sirer dautre	5356
R	obe vestir qui cele ot	
N	us ne la voit qui ne la lot	
Q	[ue] trop en ert louvraigne chiere	
m	es chas[cun]s prise plus sa chiere	5360
et	sa biaute q[ue] son harnues	
A	mout g[ra]nt ioie len ont lues	
m	enee au moustier li baron	
t	ant baudequin tant ciglaton	5364
t	ant bon diaspre tant samit	
o	nq[ue]s nuls emsamble ne vit	
t	ant rubiz de plusors faco[n]s	
l	une a oiseax lautre a poisso[n]s	5368
L	autre partie par q[ua]rtiers	
l	es sebelins bons et entiers	
o	nt es mantiax iusques acors	
D	e liglise touz li tresors	5372
V	int en[con]tre a procession	
S	aintuaire de g[ra]nt renon	
I	ot ge ne sai dont il vint	
S	i ot ceptre et q[ua]nq[ue] covint	5376
i	ot sanz longues demorer	
a	emp[er]eor coroner	
m	[ou]t ot chas[cu]ns riche corone	
et	larcevesqes les corone	5380
L	ues droit emp[re]slepousement	
l	ors lor fist on segnorelment	
Q	[ua]nq[ue]n dut en fet et en dit	
E	n lonor dou saint esp[er]it	5384
et	chanta de la trinite	
l	i seriant orent si haste	
C	has[cun]s endroit le sien mestier	
Q	[ue] lues droit q[ue]n vint dou moustier	5388

set fire to the city
 and the towers of Troy.
 And while he lay upon the rugs, 5348
 the ships of the Greeks
 were taken... No man now lives *
 who would know how to make so beautiful a cloth.
 The lining was neither squirrel nor miniver, 5352
 but of black sable and ermine,
 sweet-scented and fine,
 alternating with one another.
 Anyone could easily give up wearing 5356
 any other robe if he had this one.
 No one saw it who did not praise it,
 for its workmanship was most precious;
 but everyone admired her face 5360
 and her beauty more than her apparel.
 With great joy the lords
 led her straight to the church.
 So many baldequins, so many exotic silks, 5364
 so much good satin, so much samite
 no man ever saw in one place together,
 so many costumes of different styles,
 one with birds, another with fish, 5368
 a third parti-colored;
 the length of their cloaks
 were lined with good whole sables.
 All the treasures from the church 5372
 were brought in a procession to meet them.
 There was a reliquary of great renown,
 I don't know where it came from;
 there was a scepter, and (to make it short) 5376
 everything necessary was there
 to crown an emperor.
 Conrad and Lienor both had rich crowns,
 and the archbishop crowned them 5380
 immediately after their wedding.
 Very ceremoniously did everyone
 say and do everything that was necessary,
 in honor of the Holy Ghost, 5384
 and they sang of the Trinity.
 The servants had made such haste,
 each at his own task,
 that as soon as people left the church 5388

Q [ue]n mist les napes sor les dois
 I ene sai pas por quoi iacrois
 l a matiere de moz oisiaus [f. 97 r 2]
 m es ap[re]s leve fist onciaus 5392
 a sseoir lez lemp[er]eriz
 Q ue hautece i ot esliz
 c e furent duz et arcevesq[ue]s
 et autre baron et envesq[ue]s 5396
 a ssis p[ar] cez tables dormanz
 m [ou]t eni a desm[er]vellanz
 o u la t[re]s g[ra]nt biautez fu prise
 l emp[er]eriz.bien a a prise 5400
 F ont il tendu si biau samblant
 Q [ui] vont asgenz le cuer emblant
 m es cenest pas enroberie
 b ien doit hair saloberie 5404
 l i seneschaus font il entraus
 o r deust servir ovoec ciaux
 Q [ui] sont fieve danceserie
 Q ui servent por lor segnorie 5408
 Q [ue] lor sires porte corone
 D etex mes comlor fiez lor done
 S ervi chascuns au dois le ior
 p or honorer lemp[er]eor 5412
 m out acesme et embeli
 A ce a li seneschaus failli
 F ont li autre par sa deserte
 I lnen puet mes aler sanz perte 5416
 c ar ille tient pires qescoufles
 I l fu en aniaus et enmoufles
 d e fer orainz mis en la tor
 S il puet eschaper a cest tor 5420
 D ont savra il mout de renart
 u ns chant[er]res devers touart
 Q ui estoit au segnor de hui
 p ensoit m[ou]t poi de son anui 5424
 A usi fesoient nesai q[ua]nt
 Q [ui] sen vont p[ar] laienz chantant
 C est la gieus la gieus qen dit en ces prez.
 vos ne vendrez mie dames caroler.la
 bele aeliz i vet p[or] ioer souz lavert olive
 vos ne vendrez mie caroler es prez q[ue] vos
 namez mie.Gi doi bien aler et bien caroler

cloths were laid on the tables.
 I don't know why I'm drawing out
 this tale with idle words.
 But after washing, those 5392
 whose nobility earned them the privilege
 were seated next to the empress;
 they were dukes and archbishops
 and other lords and bishops. 5396
 At the high tables
 there was much wonderment
 at where the empress had gotten
 her great beauty: "These lovely looks," 5400
 they said, "surely set a trap
 to steal away people's hearts--
 but that's no theft."
 "The seneschal," people said to each other, 5404
 "should well regret his own perfidy;
 he should have served here with those
 who hold hereditary fiefs
 and serve out of their great nobility 5408
 when their lord wears his crown."
 Each was served at table that day
 with such dishes as their ranks deserved,
 to honor the emperor 5412
 who was also elegantly dressed and adorned.
 "This is what the seneschal lost,"
 said the others, "by his own fault.
 He cannot escape now without paying, 5416
 for the king values him less than a kite."
 The seneschal was placed in the tower
 in manacles and leg-irons.
 If he can escape from that tower, 5420
 then he really resembles Renard!
 *

A singer from the area near Thouars,
 who was with the Lord of Huy,
 took little thought for his misery; 5424
 neither did any number of those
 who strolled through there singing,
 Down there, down there, they're singing in the meadows.
 You may not come, ladies, to dance carols.
 Beautiful Aeliz goes there to play under the green olive-tree.
 You may not come to dance carols in the meadows, for you
 don't love at all. But I must go, for I have a dear love!

cariai bele amie Fet.i. quens or ne voi ge
 Q[ue] nus doie si cesti dire 5436
 c om fet lemp[er]eres mis sire
 v oire et cesti refet il les
 Q [ui] vaut.i.mauvez entremes
 C est la gieus enmi les prez.Iai amors a [f. 97 v 1] 5440
 ma volente.dames i ont baus levez
 gari mont mi oel.Iai amors a ma vo
 lente teles com ge voel
 C esteli rest bone sanz doute
 o r la puet chant[er] quil a toute
 h onor et ioie a cest mengier 5448
 N e sont pas a cont[er] legier
 L i mes tant en i ot divers
 D e cenglers et dours et de cers
 g rues iantes paons rostis 5452
 L i serjant nont pas cez hounis
 Q [ui] orent porree au mouton
 Q [ui] porle mai ert en seson
 et gras buef et oisons peuz 5456
 v ins blans et v[er]meils ont euz
 I tex come chascuns amot
 m [ou]t se saola bien et pot
 e n esgarder son g[ra]nt barnage 5460
 l emp[er]eres et le visage
 D e sa nouvele couronnee
 b uer lont ses genz si esgardee
 Q [ui]lles en aime miex et prise 5464
 S es biaux freres sia bien prise
 S or lui g[ra]nt part de cele ioie
 I ames ne quit q[ue] nus ho[m] voie
 p lus gent ch[evalie]r quil ert lors 5468
 Q [ue] quil servi empur le cors
 a u dois devant lemp[er]eor
 D ex sor veist a cele honor
 l abone mere ses enfans 5472
 t oz les iors quele fust vivanz
 E n fust assez plus en sante
 h a!dex com len a cieus haste
 Q [ui] li vont la novele dire 5476
 L i fil asbarons de lempire
 l ues droit qen ot napes ostees
 o ntles touailles aportees

One count said, "I don't think
 anyone deserves to sing this song
 as much as my lord the emperor!" 5436
 "Truly, and this one," said the emperor at once,
 "which is good to sing between two courses:
 It's down there, in the meadows, (I have a love
 to my own taste!) that ladies have arranged a dance--
 my eyes have cured me. I have a love to my own taste,
 just as I want!"
 This one was suited to him, no doubt;
 now he can sing it, for he has all
 honor and joy at this feast. 5448
 It isn't easy to describe the dishes,
 there was such a variety of them,
 of boar and bear and venison,
 of cranes, geese, and roasted peacocks. 5452
 The servants didn't do badly by those
 who had lamb stew
 (which, since it was May, was in season)
 and fat beef and young fattened geese. 5456
 They had white or red wine,
 just as they chose.
 The emperor was satisfied and contented,
 seeing his great company 5460
 of lords, and the face
 of his newly crowned bride.
 Luckily his people admired her,
 for he loved and prized them the more for it. 5464
 His brother-in-law surely shared
 a large part of that joy;
 I don't think any man ever saw
 a nobler knight than Guillaume was then, 5468
 as he was serving, uncloaked,
 at table before the emperor.
 God! if their good mother could only see
 the honor done to her children, 5472
 she would have been happy
 all the days of her life.
 Lord, how the messengers were hurried away,
 who went to tell her the news! 5476
 When the tablecloths were removed,
 the sons of the lords of the realm
 brought in the towels and basins

et	les bacins plains deve clere	5480
E	rroment queli emp[er]ere	
Q	ui siot este bien serviz	
o	t lave et lemp[er]eriz	
et	larcevesques tot avant	5484
l	ors comenca demaintenant	
l	a grant feste tote la nuit	
E	nbohord[er] et en deduit	
M	istrent le remegnant douior	[f. 97 v 2] 5488
t	ant garnement tant riche ator	
I	ot done ainz lendemain	
N	us ne sen vet a vuide main	
Q	[ui] i fust venuz por avoir	5492
L	i baron qui voustrent avoir	
l	e bongre de lemp[er]eor	
i	don[er]lent tant por sam[or]	
c	hapes.sorcos.cotes.mantiaus	5496
Q	ui eust tant de blans borriaus	
s	en peust on vestir.iii.ans	
l	es renduz digni et doscans	
m	[ou]t en i ot done plente	5500
I	e ne vos ai mie conte	
Q	[ue]l siecleli rois ot la nuit	
S	enus hom puet avoir deduit	
A	tenir samie embraciee	5504
E	n biau lit la nuit anuitiee	
d	onc pot on bien savoir quil leut	
Q	[ua]nt tristans ama plus yseut	
et	il sen pot miex aaisier	5508
et	dacoler et de baisier	
et	dou sorplus quil i covint	
et	lanvax et atretex.xx.	
a	mant.com cil orent este	5512
c	e sachiez vos de verite	
N	e peust on aparellier	
l	or siecle a cestui delegier	
S	i i parut bien au lever	5516
[c	on]ques nus neli vout rouver	
R	iche don quil neli donast	
A	inz q[ue] li haus bers sen alast	
N	e que la g[ra]nz cors departist	5520
S	achiez que illor departit	
S	es biaux ioiax a g[ra]nt plente	

full of clear water. 5480
 As soon as the emperor,
 who had been so well served,
 had washed--and the empress too,
 and the archbishop-- 5484
 then the great celebration began
 which lasted through the night.
 They spent the rest of the day
 in tilting and in amusements. 5488
 So many adornments, so much rich attire
 was given there, before the next morning,
 that no one went away empty-handed
 who had come hoping to receive something. 5492
 The lords, who wanted to have
 the emperor's good-will,
 for his sake gave so many gifts
 of capes, surcoats, tunics, cloaks, 5496
 that if anyone had much white wool,
 he could have clothed all the monks
 of Igny and Ourscamps for three years.
 Much was given there in abundance! 5500
 I haven't yet told you
 what pleasure the king had that night.
 If any man can have delight
 in holding his beloved in his arms 5504
 in a fair bed, all night long,
 then one can be sure that Conrad had it.
 When Tristan most loved Isolde,
 and he could best take pleasure 5508
 in holding and kissing her
 and doing all the rest that went with it,
 or when Lanval or another twenty such
 lovers as these could do the same, 5512
 still you may be very sure
 that one could not easily compare
 their pleasure to his.
 This was obvious when he arose, 5516
 for no one who went to ask him
 for any rich gift was denied it.
 Before the noble lord departed
 and the great court broke up, 5520
 believe me, he distributed his fair treasures
 among them in great plenty,

E nsi com il orent este
 E n sonor et en son service 5524
 t uit ensamble li ont requise
 l am[er]ci por le seneschal.
 p [or] tant dor co[m] ila darchal
 a hui oulen fet les chaudieres 5528
 S i men poise por voz p[ro]ieres
 N e remaind[ro]it q[ue] nen fust fete
 l a iustice.or sen dehaite
 L i dus de savoie et li autre 5532
 D esus le pavement de bautre
 S e sont tuit couchie a ses piez. [f. 98 r 1]
 c est por noient.or vos dreciez
 Q [ui]la tot au siecle parti 5536
 l i desloiaus q[ui] me menti
 Q [ui] vout honir la gentil fame
 t ote la plus preus douroiaume
 d ut avoir trai par envie 5540
 c ertes mout doit hair sa vie
 Q uil i morra o tot sa honte.
 et de ce qa madame monte
 b iaus sire peseroit vos il 5544
 S e nos li proions.nenil
 b ien en face ce quele veut
 I l se repent i quil les eut
 a u p[re]mier mot si escondit 5548
 Q uil en avoit este serviz
 m [ou]t bien et alor g[ra]nt despenz
 D e g[ra]nt sens lor vint cil porpenz
 Q uil lensont lues ale proier 5552
 L i uns li a sanz delaier
 p [or] aus touz dite la parole
 Q [ue] sil i muert ou len laffole
 E l i avra m[ou]t poi [con]quis 5556
 et savra a toz iors aquis
 l or cuers sele fet lor proiere
 m [ou]t estoit en bele meniere
 v estue acesmee et trecie 5560
 Q [ue] ne lavoit pas si blecie
 l anuit deu m[er]ci lemp[er]ere
 Q ue de ce dont la p[ro]iere ere
 Q uele nen seust bien respondre. 5564
 S anz vilonie et sanz esgondre

according to their standing
 and their service to him. 5524
 Together they all asked him
 for mercy toward the seneschal.
 "Not for as much gold as they have copper *
 in Huy, where they make cauldrons-- 5528
 though I am sorry for your appeals--
 can justice fail to be done
 to him." The Duke of Savoy
 and the others grieved at his answer; 5532
 they all threw themselves at the king's feet
 upon the alabaster floor.
 "It is useless; now stand up,
 for he is lost to the world, 5536
 the faithless one who lied to me,
 who wanted to shame that noble lady.
 Out of envy he almost betrayed
 the very finest woman in the realm. 5540
 He should certainly hate his life,
 since he will die with his shame upon him."
 "As far as my lady is concerned,
 fair lord, would you object 5544
 if we asked her?" "Not at all:
 let her do whatever she likes with him."
 He regretted that he had so rebuffed them
 at their first request, 5548
 for he had been very well served,
 at their great expense. His lords' wisdom
 prompted them to ask the queen,
 and they went right away to implore her. 5552
 Without delay one of them
 spoke up for all, saying that
 if the seneschal were killed or maimed
 she would gain very little by it; 5556
 but if she acceded to their prayer
 she would win their hearts forever.
 She was very beautifully
 dressed, adorned, and braided, 5560
 and the emperor, thank God,
 had not hurt her so much the previous night
 that she could not answer well
 in the matter of their prayer, 5564
 without churlishness and without disregarding

.I. sol mot de ce quilli distrent
 E nmi la req[ue]ste lidistrent
 Q ue bien seust ele une rien 5568
 Q ue lemp[er]eres voloît bien
 Q uele feist tot son vouloir.
 h uimes en porrai ge avoir
 F et ele male volente 5572
 S e vos mavez dit verite
 Q [ue] mis sires lait mis sor moi
 I e ne voeil pas.ne ne ledoi
 E ncore atrere enalemaigne 5576
 Q ue dex et la gent ne sen plaigne
 Q uil nap[ar]tendroit pas anos
 o r men [con]seilliez entre vos
 Q [ue]le iustice on en puet fere [f. 98 r 2] 5580
 S anz mort recoivre et sanz deffere
 p [or] ce qautres ne si amorde
 I ene voeil pas quil sen estorde
 s anz fere longue peneance 5584
 F etes li alemaigne et france
 v uidier.si sen voist outremer
 g e nel doi mie mout amer
 Q uil nel vout onq[ue]s deservir 5588
 o r sen voist au temple servir
 S emes sires le veut einsî.
 O il dame.gel vos affi.
 G ello bien por deu et por vos. 5592
 D ame et de deu et de nos
 E n aiez vos g[re]z et m[er]ciz
 C ertes or nos avez gariz
 et gete de mout g[ra]nt soussi. 5596
 l emp[er]eor le vont einsî
 R eporter com ele avoit dit.
 F et il depar saint esp[er]it
 I eni metrai ia contredit 5600
 m out a ore bae petit
 a lout[ra]ge le seneschal
 N eli rent mie mal p[or] mal
 Q ui len lait atel point venir 5604
 S ire tout ert a avenir
 p [or] deu font il lessiez ester
 L en nel doit iames recorder
 Q assez ena honte et anui 5608

a single word of what they asked her.
 In the middle of their request they told her
 that she should know one thing quite well, 5568
 which was that the emperor
 genuinely wished her to do as she desired.
 "Today," she said, "I could indeed
 bear ill-will toward the seneschal. 5572
 But if what you have told me is true
 and my lord has left the decision to me,
 I do not want to, and I must not,
 bring it about that 5576
 God or his people should complain of him,
 for it would not be right for us.
 Now advise me among yourselves
 what punishment he may be given, 5580
 without killing or dismembering him.
 I do not want him to get off lightly,
 without doing a long penance,
 or some other man may try to do what he did." 5584
 "Exile him from Germany and France,
 and send him abroad on Crusade."
 "I cannot have any great love for him,
 for he never tried to earn it. 5588
 Now let him go and serve in the Temple,
 if my lord wishes it."
 "Yes, my lady, I assure you."
 "I agree, then, for God's sake and yours." 5592
 "Lady, may you have favor and mercy
 both from God and from us!
 You have surely restored us now,
 and eased our great sorrow." 5596
 They went to tell the emperor
 what she had said.
 He said, "By the Holy Ghost,
 I will not overrule it. 5600
 But she has not considered
 the seneschal's outrage;
 she does not pay him back evil for evil,
 by letting him do this." 5604
 "Lord, all is yet to occur!
 For God's sake," they said, "let it be.
 We should never remember it again,
 for there have been shame and trouble enough." 5608

"By my faith, may God, who brought us
 to this happiness, give the seneschal a good day!
 Now go at once," said the king,
 "and have his chains removed. 5612
 Let the young lord take care
 to come to my court wearing the cross: *
 it will be a cold day in July *
 before he'll ever be loved here again!" 5616
 The seneschal was led in before the empress,
 wearing the cross and weeping,
 to give her his thanks and his gratitude
 for the kindness she had shown him. 5620
 I tell you, he was miserable;
 he little thought he would ever leave the court.
 After that the lords wanted
 to take leave of the empress; 5624
 in brief words and with elegant speech
 she gave it to them graciously,
 and so did the emperor.
 Thus the court broke up, 5628
 and everyone went back to his own country,
 where they all had much to do.
 The world is certainly a sorry place,
 since all joy ends in sorrow. 5632
 They would never have wanted
 to leave, but they had to go.
 The emperor and twenty lords
 remained with the empress. 5636
 Good Guillaume, her brother,
 was dearly loved and very powerful;
 and the emperor rejoiced greatly
 when their mother came, 5640
 and he kept her very generously
 in the city of Mainz.
 The archbishop, out of reverence,
 had the story put in writing. 5644
 Well should he be kept in memory
 by kings and counts alike,
 this nobleman we've told them of,
 so that they will desire to do good 5648
 just as he did in his life;
 on his account people sing it, and will sing it,
 as long as the world endures--

- Q [ui] ne finera mie encore 5652
et cil se veut reposer ore
Q ui le ior p[er]di son sornon
Q uil entra en religion 5655
E xplicit li romans de larose.

which will certainly not end just yet.

5652

And now he wishes to rest,
who lost his surname on the day
he entered into religion.

*5655

Here ends the Romance of the Rose.

Notes

- 1: "en romans" can mean "in French" (as in "en romans sans latin" [4195]), in which case Jean Renart refers to translating it out of a "conte" in another language; it can also mean "into a romance," in which case he refers to expanding it from a shorter narrative.
- 42-43: Conrad's virtues here are both moral and social; he hates both what is sinful and what is unadventurous.
- 56: Lit. he was worth a bushel of those kings.
- 223: Conrad's battle cry, "Ca, chevaliers, as dames!" rather than "As armes!" indicates that his attention here is turned to the tenderer side of chivalry and of the romance's thematics.
- 231: "Before prime" [ancois quil fust prime] refers to the canonical hour of prime; though these were not absolutely fixed, prime here refers to the early morning.
- 326: literally "who sang with arms and hands," and thus presumably sang while dancing.
- 329: The image of love among the gladiola may seem less than enticing to modern readers; the identification may be generic, and refer to something more like wild iris.
- 481: Verjuice [verjus] is the sour juice of unripe fruit (e.g., grapes, crab apples).
- 482: Panada [mortereus] is a dish containing bread crumbs and milk.
- 512ff: The injunction to "watch your arms" is an instruction to the dancers.
- 715: The Dol referred to here is in Bretagne, but the anticipation

of the name Dole is surely deliberate--as the many plays on the word later in the romance will also be (e.g., 33656, 3697, 3766, 3802, 3806, 3822, 3825, 5632, etc.).

923ff: By the Châtelain de Coucy.

1223: Although Lecoy finds that "querele" seems meaningless in this context, it probably refers to the slight disagreement between Guillaume and Lienor over her modest hesitation to sing.

1287: The "vile plessiée" is a village enclosed by a thick strong hedge. The word "plessié" will refer by extension to Guillaume's house, and I translate it consistently as "manor" or "manor house." The "court" and the "manor" define the two poles between which the story moves.

1301ff: This is a version in Old French of the Old Provençal *canso* "Lancan li jorn," by Jaufré Rudel.

1332ff: The following excerpt is not known in any of the surviving manuscripts of *Gerbert de Metz*. It is also unclear who in this romance is singing the *chanson de geste*, since the text tells us first that a woman is singing it (1330-32), and then that a man is (1368).

1476: The solar is an upper room which faces south, and is thus warmer to sit in in winter.

1600: Lejeune identifies "l'Endit" as the fair of St. Denis.

1643: lit., "who knows well how the weary ox treads;" Jouglet knows that Conrad will be slow and circuitous in broaching the subject he really wants to discuss, so he moves the discussion along himself.

1717: Here Jean Renart clusters occurrences of the word "conte" [count, and story] and its variations; when he says that there is only "one count" between the emperor and Guillaume, he is also saying that there is only one tale between them. The

prologue of *L'Escoufle* features a similar density of such occurrences.

2027ff: By Gace Brulé.

2114-17: I follow Lecoy's suggestion on this elliptical construction.

2151: Guillaume carefully observes distinctions of rank, treating his guests according to their position.

2169: The phrase "like devils" probably means "fast and furious," although it seems to evoke the linguistic hostility which still characterizes this region.

2202-3: For "pesnes" Lecoy proposes "perles," and I have translated accordingly.

2448: As Lecoy suggests, "food suitable for a tournament" seems to suggest light fare.

2533: There is almost certainly a lacuna in the manuscript here.

2539: The word "mustadole" occurs only in this manuscript, and thus we do not know what kind of fabric, design, or color it might indicate.

2595: Orig. "Wilcome!" and "Godehere!" Like "Boidin" and "Wautre" (2168), these Flemish words are meant to sound extremely foreign in the text.

2645: A line is missing after 2645.

2667: "Aporte-bos," lit. "Bring-wood," refers to the fact that Guillaume is wearing out so many lances that they have to bring him more.

2796: For "resoignent" [they fear] Lecoy proposes "repoignent" [they spur], which suits the context better.

- 2867: If Guillaume made his enemies pay dearly for the helmet which the emperor had given him, he himself also paid in bruises.
- 2959: In fact he must have left two days before, since the day before he was fighting in the tournament.
- 3255: "tot le bessie" makes little sense in this context, and I have omitted it in the translation.
- 3262: A typical negative formulation for a positive virtue (as in "hated eating by the fire in summer" for "loved congeniality and adventure").
- 3280-83: As Lecoy notes, the description of the cloak is extremely unclear, and probably faulty.
- 3309: For "coffiniaus" [little casket] Lecoy proposes "cossiniaus" [cushions]; he is probably correct.
- 3400: Cupelin is called "more tender than a herring," though whether this refers to his tender years, his frame, or something else is difficult to say.
- 3433: "Celes" could refer either to songs or to ladies; I've translated it with reference to the latter.
- 3458: Robert Macié, unknown to us, but apparently associated with treachery.
- 3472: The phrase refers to the familiar riddle about how to get a wolf, a goat, and a cabbage across a stream (the American version features a fox, a hen, and some corn).
- 3531: Lecoy notes that "Islande" is likely to be a scribal error for "Irlande."
- 3625ff: By Gace Brulé.
- 3704-7: As Rey-Flaud notes, Guillaume refers to punishments

reserved for debauched women and the insane.

3751ff: By the Châtelain de Coucy.

3760: The repetition here is deliberate, to intensify the contrast between the emperor's high status and his miserable state of mind.

3766: The emperor's "grief" [doel] constitutes another pun on Guillaume's surname (see also 3852).

3786: The word "neveu" is not at this stage fixed as "nephew"; it can refer to a cousin or relation in general, and this "neveu" seems to be a cousin (Lejeune 1935, p. 70, n. 1).

3801 and passim: the word "doel" and its variants are repeatedly applied to Guillaume, clearly playing on his name.

3852: Lienor's surname is of course "Dole": she is aptly named, for bringing grief upon herself, her family, and the emperor.

3883ff: By Renaut de Sabloeil.

3924ff.: Guillaume's fire-breathing young cousin, after falling headlong, is subdued by a servant armed with a skewer; the scene is played for comedy rather than drama.

4032: As Lecoy notes, this is an obscure passage, but the sense may be that Lienor need not fear either that she has sinned (for she hasn't) or that it's too late to repair the damage; she need only fear God should He choose to oppose her.

4124: The Vidame de Chartres is the poet Guillaume de Ferrières (died 1219).

4195: "en romans sanz latin": the phrase is tantalizing, in that it suggests that the difference between French and Latin may still be considered more one of register than of language. In any case, it refers to the plainness and clarity of her speech.

4653ff: By Daude de Pradas.

4722 ff.: Lienor's headdress is described with the vocabulary of arms and battle: her "defense-works," "ventail," "helmet," are the weapons of a woman who fights for her honor and an advantageous marriage.

4735: lit. "she had arranged her forehead like an armorer's"; we do not know what coiffure this might indicate, but the phrase continues the martial imagery noted above.

4907: As Lecoy notes, "parjurer" means "to perjure oneself," to swear falsely. Since this meaning does not fit the context unless ironically, I have translated it simply as "to speak."

4942: In the manuscript, a hand positioned between the two columns of script points to this line.

4995: The manuscript pictures a small face with an enormous nose to the left of column one.

5009: Lit. faster than an axe.

5039: In the manuscript another hand appears, apparently pointing out the denouement.

5116: A triumphant song of praise.

5212ff: This is an Old French version of an Old Provençal canso by Bernart de Ventadorn.

5232ff: By Gontier de Soignies.

5300: The phrase is actually considerably more direct: "Ass pulls harder than a rope."

5350: The word following [Greeks] "grieus" is illegible in the manuscript.

5417: A kite is a bird of prey, and Jean Renart refers obliquely

here to his other long romance, *Le Roman de l'Escoufle*.

5421: Renard the fox is probably also invoked here to identify the author of the romance.

5527: Lit. brass.

5614: Crusaders wore the distinctive insignia of a cross on their clothing to identify themselves.

5615: Lit. "when the dog runs," perhaps a proverb whose referent is lost. The sense in any case is clear.

5656: See introduction, "The Problem of Authorship."

Appendix: Lyric and Other Insertions

- 291-92: E non deu sire se nelai
lamor de lui mar lacoï[n]tai
(anonymous, attested only here)
- 295-96: La ius desoz laraimie
Einsi doit aler qui aime.
clere i sourt la fontaine.ya.
Einsi doit aler qui bele amie a
(anonymous)
- 304-05: Semes amis ma guerpie
p[or] cene morrai ge mie
(anonymous, attested only here)
- 310-ff: Main se leva bele aeliz
dormez ialous ge vos enpri
biause para miex sevesti.desoz le raim
Mignotement la voi venir cele q[ue] iaim (anonymous)
- 318-ff: Main se leva bele aeliz
mignotement la voi venir
bien se para miex se vesti.en mai
Dormez ialous et ge menvoiserai
(anonymous)
- 329-ff: Cest tot lagieus elglaioloi
tenez moi dame tenez moi
une fontaine i sordoit ae
tenez moi dame p[or] les maus dam[er]
(anonymous)
- 514-ff: Cest tot la gieus enmi les prez
vos nesentez mieles maus dam[er]
dames i vont p[or] caroler remirez voz braz

Vosne sentez mie les maus dam[er] si co[m] ge faz
(anonymous)

522-ff: Cest la ius desoz lolive
robinsenmaine samie
lafontaine i sort serie desouz lolivete
Enondeu robins enmaine bele mariete
(anonymous)

532-ff: main selevoit aaliz.iai non enmelot
biau se para et vesti soz la rochequion
cui lairai ge mes amors amie sa vosnon
(anonymous)

542-ff: main seleva la bien fete aeliz
p[ar] ci passe li bruns li biaux robins
biause para et plus biause vesti
marchiez la foille et ge qieudrai la flor
parci passe robins li amorous
Encor enest li herbage plusdouz
(anonymous)

846-ff: Quant flors et glais et verdure sesloigne
Q[ue] cil oisel nosent.i.mot soner
p[or] lafroidor chas[cun]s crient et resoigne
tres qau biau tens quil soloient chant[er]
et p[or] ce chant q[ue] nel puis oublier
la bon amor dont dex ioie me doigne
carde li sont et vienent mi penser
(Gace Brulé)

923-ff: Li noviaus tens et mais et roissignox me
semont de chanter.et mes fins cuers me
fet dune amorete.undoz present que ge
nos refuser.or mendoit dex en tel honor
monter.cele ou iai mis mon cuer et mon
penser.qentre mes bras la tenisse nuete.
ainz qalasse outremer.
(Châtelain de Couci)

1159-ff: Fille et lamere se sieent alorfrois a un fil
 dor i font orieuls croiz.parla lamere qui
 le cuer ot cortois.tant bele amor fist aude
 an doon.Ap[re]nez fille a coudre et afiler.et en
 lorfrois les oriex crois lever.lamor doon vos
 covient oublier.tant bon amor fist
 bele aude en doon.
 (anonymous, attested only here)

1183-ff: Siet soi bele aye as piez samale mai/
 stre.sor ses genouls un paile dengle
 terre.a un fil i fet coustures beles.he!
 he!amors dautre pais.mo[n] cuer avez
 et lie et souspris.---Aval la face li
 courent chaudes lermes.Qel est batue
 et au main et au vespre.por ce quel ai
 mesoudoier dautre terre.he!amor
 dautre pais.mon cuer avez et lie et souspris
 (anonymous, attested only here)

1203-ff: La bele doe siet au vent.
 Souz laubespine guion atent
 plaint et regrete tant forment
 p[or] son ami qui si vient lent
 Diex quel vassal a en doon
 Diex quel vassal dex q[ue]l baron
 Ia namerai se doon non
 comez chargez co[m] ez floriz
 a toi memist plet mes amis
 mesil neveut a moi venir
 Dex quel vassal a endoon
 Dex q[ue]l vassal dex quel baron
 ia namerai se doon non
 (anonymous, attested only here)

1301-ff: Lors queli ior sont lonc en mai.mes biaux doz
 chant doisel.de lonc et q[ua]nt me sui p[ar]tiz de la.
 membre mi dune amor delonc vois de ca gens
 bruns et enduis si que chans ne flors daubes
 pin ne mi val ne cuivers gelas
 (Jaufré Rudel)

1335-ff: Des que fro[monz] au veneor tenca
 li [bons] p[re]voz qui trestout escouta
 tant atendi que la noise abessa
 Sorlarestuel delespie sapuia
 ou voit fro[mont] pas ne le salua
 Fro[monz] ditil ge sui de ciaus dela
 Gerbers mis sire qui avos menvoia
 P[ar] moi vos mande nel vos celerai ia
 Q[ue] li envoieiz fou[con] que ge voi la
 et Rocelin.car amdeus pris lesa
 et sillenient bien est qui provera
 Entotes cors la on les trovera
 Ouen latoe se sauf [con]duit ia
 Fouques rougi.Rocelins embruncha
 malsoit decel qui onq[ue]s mot sona
 Liviex fro[monz] forment sen aira
 P[ar] deu provos qui ca vos envoia
 m[ou]tbelement de vos se delivra
 Sedont vos vit iames ne vos verra
 et sil vos voit nevos reconoistra
 Encor me membre ne loublierai ia
 dun guerredon q[ue] me feistes ia
 Li rois de france.i.cheval me dona
 Voiant voz oils.c.liv[res] li cousta
 Vosloceistes gainc nese remua
 AGeronville aupie dou pont deca
 Uns ch[evalie]rs un tel cop mi dona
 desor mon heaume q[ue] totleme[n]barra
 Prendre me fist au col de mo[n] cheval
 etdit guirrez fromo[n]t entendez ca
 Ce fumes filz qui avos sacointa
 Mort vos eust mes ilvos espargna

Sila aaise encor i referra.

(from *Gerbert de Metz*, but attested only here)

1456-ff: Loial amor qui enfin cuer ses mise.
 nen doit iames partir ne remouvoir.
 Que la dolor qui destraint et iustise
 Samble doucor q[ua]nt len lapuet avoir.
 Q[ui] en porroit morir en bon espoir
 Gariz seroit devant deu au joise
 p[or] ce menlo q[ua]nt plus me fet doloir--
 (Renaut de Beaujeu)

1579-ff: Aaliz main seleva
 bon ior ait qui mo[n] cuer a
 biau se vesti et para desoz launoi
 bon ior ait qui mo[n] cuer a nest pas omoi
 (anonymous)

1769-ff: Mout me demeure q[ue] noi chanter la
 toutre a lentree destre.ausi co[m] ge
 soloie.mes une amor me desvoie.
 et tient esgare ouiai mo[n] pense.
 quel lieu q[ue] onges soie
 (anonymous)

1846-ff: Cest laius en la praele
 orai bone amor novele
 dras i gaoit perronele.bien doi ioie avoir
 orai bon amor novele a mon voloir
 (anonymous)

2027-ff: Contrel tens que voi frimer.les arbres et
 blanchoyer.mest pris talenz dechanter.si nen
 eusse mestier.Qamors mefet [con]parer ce qon
 qes ne soi trichier.Nonqes ne poi endurer
 a avoir faus cuer leg[lier] p[or] ce ai failli aamie
 (Gace Brulé)

2235-ff: Labele aiglentine.en roial chamb[er]ine
 devant sa dame cousoit une chemise.ainc
 nen sot mot quant bone amor latise.or
 orrez ja.[con]ment labele Aiglentine exploita
 Devant sadame cousoit et si tailloit.Mes
 ne coust mie si com coudre soloit.ele sen
 treoublie si se point en son doit.la soe mere
 mout tost sen apercoit.or orrez ia [con]me[n]t.
 Bele aiglentine deffublez vosorcot.Ie voil
 veoir desoz vostre gent cors.Non ferai dame
 La froidure est lamorz.Or orrez ia.
 bele aiglentine qavez a empirier.Q[ue] sivos
 voi palir et engroissier.Ma douce
 dame ne le vos pui noier.Jeai aimi.i.
 cortois soudoier.le preu henri qui tant fet
 a aproisier.Sonqes mamastes aiez de moi
 pitie.Or orrez i coment.
 Bele aiglentine vos prendra il henris.Ne
 sai voir dame car onqes neli quis.bele
 aiglentine or vos tornez de ci.tot ce
 li dites que ge li mant henri.Sil vos pren
 drai ou vos lera ainsi.Volentiers dame la
 bele respondi.Or orrez ia.
 bele aigl[entine] sest tornee de ci.et est venue d[ro]it
 a lostel henri.li q[ue]ns henris se gisoit en so[n]
 lit.or orrez ja q[ue] la bele li dit.Or orrez ia
 Sire henri velliez vos ou dormez.Iavos re
 quiert aigl[entine] au vis cler.Se la prendrez a
 moullier et a per.oil dit henris.onc ioie noi
 mes tel.Or orrez ia
 Oit le henris m[ou]t ioianz en devint.il fet
 monter ch[evalie]r trusq[a].xx.Si enporta la bele en
 son pais et espousa riche [con]tesse enfist.g[ra]nt
 ioie en a li q[ue]ns henris quant la bele aiglentine a.
 (anonymous, attested only here)

2369-ff: La ius desouz lolive
 Ne vos repentez mie
 Fontaine i sourt serie puceles carolez
 Nevos repentez mie deloiaument amer
 (anonymous)

2379-ff: Mauberion sest main levee.dioree.
 buer i vig.a la fontaine est alee.or
 en ai dol Diex diex ordemeure.mau
 berions a leve trop.
 (anonymous)

2389-ff: Renaus et samie chevauche par
 un pre.totemuit chevauche ius
 qau ior cler.ia navrai mes joie de
 vos amer
 (anonymous)

2398-ff: De renaut de mousson
 et de son frere hugon.
 et de ses [con]paignons
 Q[ui] donent les grans dons
 Veult fere une chanco[n]
 jordains li viex bordon
 ou tens de moustoisons
 (anonymous, attested only here)

2514-ff: La gieus desoz la raimie
 Einsy doit aler qui aime
 clere i sort la fontaine.ya
 Einsy doit al[er] qui bele amie a
 (anonymous)

2523-ff: Sor la rive de mer mignotement
 alez.un baut i ot leve mignoz
 sui.alez mignoteme[n]t dui et dui
 (anonymous)

3107-ff: Mout est fous q[ue] que nus die qui
 cuide q[ue] aillors be.car miex aim
 son es[con]dire qautre meust cuer
 done.et maintes gens serf p[or]
 les felons plains de tricherie por ce
 faz lor volente que ge cuit chas
 cuns la voie

(anonymous, attested only here)

3180-ff: Quant de la foelle espoissent li vergier
 que lerbe est vert et la rose espanie et
 au matin oi le cha[n]t [con]mencier dou roissig
 nol qui par le bois sescrie.lors ne me sai
 vers amor [con]sellier car onq[ue]s noi dautre
 richece envie.fors q[ue] damors ne riens ne
 men puet fere aie.

la fine amors ne sera sanz torment.que
 losengier en o[n]t corrouz et ire.Ne ge ne
 puis servir a son talent.quele me voelle
 a son servise eslire.je soufferrai les faus
 diz de la gent qui non pooir sanz plus
 fors de mesdire de bone amor ne riens
 fors li ne me puet geter dire

(anonymous, attested only here)

3403-ff: Quant ge li donai le blanc pelicon.ele a
 mast mout miex le biau tierrion.he!he!
 ge disoie bien.Que la pastorele ne men
 feroit rien

(anonymous, attested only here)

3419-ff: Cele doisseri.ne met en oubli.q[ue] naille
 au cembel.tant abien enli.q[ue] m[ou] embeli
 legieu soz lormel.En son chief ot chapel
 de roses fres novel.face ot fresche coloree
 vairs oils.cler vis.simple et bel.p[or] les au
 tres fere envie.i porta mai[n]t belioel

(anonymous)

3625-ff: Ie di que cest g[ra]nz folie dencerchier
 ne esprover ne sa mouliier ne sa
 mie tant come len laveut amer ai[n]z
 sendoit on bien gard[er] dencerch[ier] paria
 lousie ce q[ue] len ni voud[ro]it trover
 (Gace Brulé)

3751-ff: Por quel forfet ne por quel ochoison
 mavez amors si de vos esloignie que de
 vos nai secors ne garison.ne ge ne
 truis qui de moi ait pitie.malement
 ai mon servise emploie [con]qes de vosne
 me vint se max non.mes or men plaig
 gie et die q[ue] mort mavez sanz ochoison
 (Châtelain de Couci or Roger d'Andeli)

3883-ff: Ia de chanter en ma vie ne q[ui]er
 mes avoir corage.ainz voeil miex
 qamors mocie por fere son grant
 domage car james si finement
 mert amee ne servie.p[or] cen chasti
 tote gent.qel ma mort et li t[ra]ie--
 Las iai dit p[ar] ma folie ce sai de
 voir g[ra]nt outrage.mes a mo[n] cuer
 prist envie destre legier et volage.a!da
 me si men repent.mes cil a tart
 merci crie qui atent tant q[ue] il pent.p[or]
 ce ai la mort deservie
 (Renaut de Sabloeil)

4127-ff: Quant li douz tenz et la sesons sasseure.q[ue]
 biaux estez se raferme et esclaire.et tote rie[n]
 a sa droite nature.vient et retret se nest t[ro]p
 de mal aire.chant[er] mestuet car plus ne me[n]
 puis taire por [con]fort[er] ma cruel aventure
 Qui mest torne a g[ra]nt mesaventure--
 A ma dolor na mestier cov[er]ture.si sui sos /
 pris q[ue] ne men puis retrere.mar acointai
 sa t[re]s douce feture p[or] tel dolor ne por tel mal
 atrere.qui ce me fet q[ue] nus ne puet deffe /

re fors ses durs cuers q[ui] v[er]s moi est si dure
 qa la mort sui se longuement mi dure.

(Vidame de Chartres)

4164-ff: Tout la gieus sor rivemer.[con]paignon or
 dou chanter.dames i ot bauz levez.m[ou]t
 mout en ai le cuer gai [con]paignon or dou chan
 ter enlonor de mai.Q[ua]nt il lore[n]t bien p[or]cha[n]te
 (anonymous)

4568-ff: Quant revient la seson que lerbe
 reverdoie que droiz est et reson
 quelen deduire doie. seuls aloie
 si pensoie as noviaus sons q[ue] ge
 soloie.touse gaie o ses moutons.tro
 vai sanz [con]pegnons ou sesbanoie a
 ses chancons.gente ert sa facons
 chevex q[ue] venz baloie. avoit so
 rez et blons
 (anonymous, attested only here)

4587-ff: Amours a non ciz maus q[ui] me tor
 mente.mes nest pas teuls co[m] lesau
 tres gent lont.sest bien resons que
 li miens cuers sen sente.qui set m[ou]t
 bien coment on len respont.et ge
 di las mi mal quant fineront
 ne ia ihesus fenir ne mes con
 sente.sapres les mauls li bien
 gregnor nen sont.
 (anonymous, attested only here)

4653-ff: Bele mest la voiz altane.del roissillol el
 pascor.Q[ue] foelle est verz blanche flor et
 lerbe nest enla sane.dont rav[er]dissent
 cil vergier.et ioi mamor tel mestier que
 cors me garist et sane.
 (Daude de Pradas)

5106-ff: Que demandez vos q[ua]nt vos mavez
 que demandez vos.dont ne mavez
 vos.Ge ne demant rien.Se vos
 mamez bien--
 (anonymous)

5113-ff: tendez tuit voz mains ala flor destre
 a la flor de liz.por deu tendez i--
 (anonymous, attested only here)

5188-ff: Or viennent pasques les beles en
 avril.florissent bois cil presont
 raverdi.cez douces eves ret[ra]ient a
 lor fil.cil oisel chantent au soir et
 au matin.qui amors a nes doit
 metre en oubli.Sovent i doit et
 aler et venir.Ia sentramoient Ai
 gline et li quens Guis.Guis aime Ai
 gline.Aigline aime Guion--
 Souz un chastel qen apele biau
 cler.En mout poi deure i ot g[ra]nz
 bauz levez.cez damoiseles i vont
 por caroler.cil escuier i vont por bohord[er]
 cil ch[evalie]r i vont por esgarder.vont i cez da
 mes por lor cors deport[er].la bele Aigline
 si est fete mener.Si ot vestu un bliaut
 de cendel qui g[ra]nz.ii.aunes trainoit p[ar]
 les prez.Guis aime Aigline.Aigline
 aime guion--
 (anonymous, attested only here)

5212-ff: Quant voi laloete moder de goi.ses ales
 contre el rai.que sobete lesse cader par
 la doucor qel cor li vai.ensi grant en
 vie mest pris de ce que voi.a ma grant
 miravile est que vis del sens ne coir do[n]t
 desier non fou.ha las tant cuidoie savoir
 donor et point nen sai.pas on damer
 non pou tenir celi dont ia prou nen au[ra]i
 tol mei lor cor et tol meismes.et soi mees

me et tol le mon.et pos tantel ne moste
 rent fors desier et cor volon.
 (Bernart de Ventadorn)

5232-ff: Lors que florist la bruiere
 que voi les prez raverdoier
 Que chantent en lor maniere
 cil oisillon el ramier
 lors sospir en mon corage
 Quant cele me fet irier
 vers qui ma longue proiere
 Ne mi pot avoir mestier
 Celui aim damor entiere
 dont iai le cuer dire plain
 Las ce mi fet estre en paine
 Dont iai le cuer dire plain--
 (Gontier de Soignies)

5427-ff: Cest la gieus la gieus qen dit en ces prez.
 vos ne vendrez mie dames caroler.la
 bele aeliz i vet p[or] ioer souz lavert olive
 vos ne vendrez mie caroler es prez q[ue] vos
 namez mie.Gi doi bien aler et bien caroler
 cariai bele amie
 (anonymous)

5440-ff: Cest la gieus enmi les prez.Iai amors a
 ma volente.dames i ont baus levez
 gari mont mi oel.Iai amors a ma vo
 lente teles com ge voel
 (anonymous)

GARLAND LIBRARY OF MEDIEVAL LITERATURE

JAMES J. WILHELM AND LOWRY NELSON, JR.

General Editors

SERIES A (TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS)

SERIES B (TRANSLATIONS ONLY)

BARTHAR SAGA

Edited and translated by

Jon Skaptason and Phillip Pulsiano

Series A

WALTHARIUS AND RUODLIEB

Edited and translated by

Dennis M. Kratz

Series A

THE RISE OF GAWAIN, NEPHEW OF

ARTHUR (DE ORTU WALUUANII

NEPOTIS ARTURI)

Edited and translated by

Mildred Leake Day

Series A

THE POETRY OF CINO DA PISTOIA

Edited and translated by

Christopher Kleinhenz

Series A

FIVE MIDDLE ENGLISH

ARTHURIAN ROMANCES

Translated by Valerie Krishna

Series B

THE ONE HUNDRED NEW TALES

(LES CENT NOUVELLES NOUVELLES)

Translated by Judith Bruskin Diner

Series B

L'ART D'AMOURS (THE ART

OF LOVE)

Translated by Lawrence Blonquist

Series B

GRAELEN'T AND GUINGAMOR

Two Breton Lays

Edited and translated by

Russell Weingartner

Series A

THE LYRICS OF THIBAUT

DE CHAMPAGNE

Edited and translated by

Kathleen J. Brahney

Series A

THE POETRY OF SORDELLO

Edited and translated by

James J. Wilhelm

Series A

GUILLAUME DE MACHAUT

The Judgment of the King of
Navarre (Le Jugement dou Roy de
Navarre)

Translated and edited

by R. Barton Palmer

Series A

THE STORY OF MERIADOC, KING OF

CAMBRIA (HISTORIA MERIADOCI,

REGIS CAMBRIAE)

Edited and translated by

Mildred Leake Day

Series A

GUILLAUME DE MACHAUT

The Fountain of Love (La
Fonteinne Amoureuse), and Two
Other Love Vision Poems

Edited and translated by

R. Barton Palmer

Series A

DER STRICKER

Daniel of the Blossoming Valley

Translated by Michael Resler

Series B

THE MARVELS OF RIGOMER

Translated by Thomas E. Vesce

Series B

CHRÉTIEN DE TROYES
*The Story of the Grail (Li Contes
del Graal), OR Perceval*
Edited by Rupert T. Pickens and
translated by William W. Kibler
Series A

HELDRIIS DE CORNUALLE
*The Story of Silence (Le Roman
de Silence)*
Translated by Regina Psaki
Series B

ROMANCES OF ALEXANDER
Translated by Dennis M. Kratz
Series B

THE CAMBRIDGE SONGS
(CARMINA CANTABRIGIENSA)
Edited and translated by
Jan M. Ziolkowski
Series A

GUILLAUME DE MACHAUT
*Le Confort d'Ami (Comfort
for a Friend)*
Edited and translated by
R. Barton Palmer
Series A

CHRISTINE DE PIZAN
Christine's Vision
Translated by Glenda K. McLeod
Series B

MORIZ VON CRAÛN
Edited and translated by
Stephanie Cain Van D'Elden
Series A

THE ACTS OF ANDREW IN THE
COUNTRY OF THE CANNIBALS
Translated by Robert Boenig
Series B

RAZOS AND TROUBADOUR SONGS
Translated by William E. Burgwinkle
Series B

MECHTHILD VON MAGDEBURG
Flowing Light of the Divinity
Translated by
Christiane Mesch Galvani;
edited, with an introduction,
by Susan Clark
Series B

ROBERT DE BORON
The Grail Trilogy
Translated by George Diller
Series B

FRANCESCO PETRARCH
Rime Disperse
Edited and translated by Joseph Barber
Series A

GUILLAUME DE DEGUILEVILLE
*The Pilgrimage of Human Life (Le
Pèlerinage de la vie humaine)*
Translated by Eugene Clasby
Series B

RENAUT DE BÂGÉ
*Le Bel Inconnu (Li Biaus
Descouneüs; The Fair Unknown)*
Edited by Karen Fresco;
translated by Colleen P. Donagher;
music edited by Margaret P. Hasselman
Series A

THOMAS OF BRITAIN
Tristan
Edited and translated by
Stewart Gregory
Series A

KUDRUN
Translated by Marion E. Gibbs
and Sidney M. Johnson
Series B

PENNINC AND PIETER VOSTAERT
Roman van Walewein
Edited and translated by
David F. Johnson
Series A

MEDIEVAL LITERATURE OF POLAND

An Anthology

Translated by Michael J. Mikoś

Series B

HELYAS OR LOHENGRIN

*Late Medieval Transformations of
the Swan Knight Legend*

Edited and translated by

Salvatore Calomino

Series A

KASSIA

*The Legend, the Woman,
and Her Work*

Edited and translated by

Antónia Tripolitis

Series A

THE SONG OF ALISCANS

Translated by Michael A. Newth

Series B

THE VOWS OF THE HERON (*LES
VOEUX DU HÉRON*)

A Middle French Vowing Poem

Edited by John Grigsby and

Norris J. Lacy;

translated by Norris J. Lacy

Series A

MEDIEVAL GALICIAN-PORTUGUESE

POETRY

An Anthology

Edited and translated by Frede Jensen

Series A

JAUFRE

An Occitan Arthurian Romance

Translated by Ross G. Arthur

Series B

HILDEGARD OF BINGEN

*The Book of the Rewards of Life
(Liber Vitae Meritorum)*

Translated by Bruce W. Hozeski

Series B

BRUNETTO LATINI

The Book of the Treasure

(*Li Livres dou Tresor*)

Translated by Paul Barrette and

Spurgeon Baldwin

Series B

THE PLEIER'S ARTHURIAN

ROMANCES

Garel of the Blooming Valley,

Tandareis and Flordibel, Meleranz

Translated by J. W. Thomas

Series B

JEAN RENART

The Romance of the Rose or of

Guillaume de Dole (Roman de la

Rose ou de Guillaume de Dole)

Edited and translated by Regina Psaki

Series A

JEAN D'ARRAS

Roman de Melusine

Translated by Sara Sturm-Maddox

and Donald Maddox

Series B

ADAM DE LA HALLE

Le Jeu de Robin et Marion

Edited and translated by

Shira Schwam-Baird

Series A

AMADAS AND YDOINE

Translated by Ross G. Arthur

Series B

THE WRITINGS

OF MEDIEVAL WOMEN

An Anthology

SECOND EDITION

Translated by Marcelle Thiébaux

Series B

JEAN FROISSART

La Prison Amoureuse

(The Prison of Love)

Edited and translated by

Laurence de Looze

Series A

THE SONG OF ASPREMONT

(La Chanson d'Aspremont)

Translated by Michael A. Newth

Series B

THE POETRY OF GUIDO GUINIZELLI

Edited and translated

by Robert Edwards

Series A

A THIRTEENTH-CENTURY LIFE OF
CHARLEMAGNE

Translated by Robert Levine

Series B

TUSCAN POETRY

OF THE DUECENTO

An Anthology

Edited and translated by

Frede Jensen

Series A

THE PERILOUS CEMETERY

(L'Atre Périlleux)

Edited and translated by

Nancy B. Black

Series A

THREE MEDIEVAL

GREEK ROMANCES

Velthandros and Chrysandza,

Kallimachos and Chrysorroï,

Livistros and Rodamni

Translated by Gavin Betts

Series B

SONGS OF THE WOMEN

TROUBADOURS

Edited and translated by

Matilda Tomaryn Bruckner,

Laurie Shepard, and Sarah White

Series A

THE ROMANCE OF FLAMENCA

Edited and translated by

E.D. Blodgett

Series A